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[For the BLADE.]

One of the Uses of Adversity;

OR,

JO'S SECOND COURTSHIP.

BY BIRCH ARNOLD.

Four bright heads were bowed over a newspaper, while four pairs of eyes were fastened upon an item in that newspaper, of such importance as to cause four voices to exclaim simultaneously:

"Oh dear! Isn't it terrible?"

"What is it, girls?" asked a gray haired lady, who was busied over the steaming coffee urn.

"Oh, mamma! Hershfield & Drake have failed!" Even as Annie said this she was interrupted by Adelaide's stern "Hush," which came too late, for Mrs. Stillman had already taken in the full purport of Annie's sentence.

There was a moment's pallor, a hasty clutching of the table, a resolute shutting of the mouth, which brought partial composure, and then Mrs. Stillman looked up into Adelaide's anxious face to ask if she was quite sure. Perhaps there was some mistake.

"It is too true," said Adelaide, tak'ng the paper from her sister's hand. "Shall I read it? Are you quite sure you can bear it?"

"Yes."

And Adelaide read as follows:

"We are sorry to announce to our readers that Hershfield & Drake, of the People's Savings Bank, have suspended, and one of the worst features of the case is that there is no probability of a resumption of business. This is especially hard upon the laboring classes who had depended upon their small bank deposits to carry them through the winter. In common with the public we had always believed that the bank had a solid basis, but in these days of economical earthquakes, it is hard to tell who will stand, and who will not."

There was silence for a moment as Adelaide ceased, but Laura broke it presently by sobbing out, "What ever shall we do?"

"And is *everything* gone?" asked Annie.

"Yes, except the house," answered the mother, drearily. "How much was in the bank?"

"Only a thousand dollars of my own, Adelaide had three hundred dollars in her name."

"Yes, mamma, and I had fifty dollars that I received from Mr. Sherman, for the painting I sold. I was keeping it to buy that lovely traveling dress at Burton's. Oh, dear! and there my trousseau! and I can't even be married!" exclaimed Laura between her sobs.

This brought a wan smile to the four other dreary faces, and from Adelaide an interrogative "Why?"

At this Laura turned indignantly upon her elder sister.

"Who ever heard of a bride without a trousseau, and where's the money to buy one, I'd like to know. And here I've been denying myself all summer, and wearing old clothes and pinching and turning in order to save money to get a comfortable outfit, so that Ralph wouldn't be ashamed of me, and there's that lovely traveling dress I had depended upon so. Oh dear! It's such a dreary world!" A moment's silence and then Laura broke out again: "You don't suppose Ralph will refuse to marry me now, do you Addie?"

There was real alarm upon the dimpled face, and Adelaide answered her gravely:

"You don't suppose he would take a bride without a trousseau, do you?"

"Nonsense! Yes, if I was a beggar he'll take me."

Laura's indignant response served somehow as a partial "clearing up," and Mrs. Stillman found courage to call the girls' attention to their breakfast, which was rapidly getting cold.

"Well, it *is* a consolation to know that if banks do fail, we have waffles for breakfast," exclaimed the volatile Laura, as she helped herself to three at a time. "How much longer do you suppose this state of things will continue? Whatever else happened, let us stick to the waffles. They are such a consolation in times like this," and she smiled roguishly over the top of the syrup cup.

This little sally of Laura's helped matters amazingly, and they were soon discussing the future in quite hopeful tones. They were a hopeful and a helpful family—this of mine. It was hard-earned and harder saved money which they had lost in the general, and it really made times fearfully close with them. Here it was, the last of October, Laura to be married in December, and all the household expenses to be met, to say nothing of the new dresses the girls had been saving their money for—and no money to do it with. On the whole, it was rather a dubious outlook, but they met it bravely. The widowed mother was just up from a long sickness, brought on by overwork in the school-room, for she had been a teacher in the city schools, and Adelaide, Jo, and Laura had been clerking in one of the retail stores, while Annie, with the help of Hallelujah Morris, the black cook, had managed the household. Laura had just thrown up her situation, intent upon the trousseau which she and her mother were to make, "all by themselves," as she had informed the waiting Ralph. Laura's money, or what little of it she had managed to save, for Laura was something of a spendthrift—in a quiet way—had gone with her mother's, and this was how they were situated when the crash came.

"Well," said Laura, pushing back her plate, when she had devoured all the waffles within reach. "Has the trousseau vanished into the air, *ma chere mere?*"

"No dear, I think not; there is a little of it still in palpable shape, but you will have to do without so many dresses. That dress at Burton's, I am afraid will have to be 'as a tale that is told,' said the mother with a half smile.

Laura made up a face, and exclaimed, tragically:

"Impossible! You know not what you ask. The wedding would not be legal without that dress."

"A good way out of the dilemma would be for Ralph to marry the dress instead. It would be a quieter and much less expensive bride."

Adelaide dodged just in time to escape the tox which Laura purposed administering, and then the mother arraigned them all before her, with a "hush girls, we must be serious now. There is so much to arrange."

"We are all attention, ma'am," said Laura, standing with a demure face and folded arms.

"How much money is there in the house?" asked the mother.

Instantly four hands went into four pockets, and four heads were busy counting the contents of four purses.

Presently all answered but Laura, who counted and recounted, and at last looked up with a puzzled air.

"I had fifteen dollars yesterday, but I can't find it. I wonder if I've lost ten dollars. Oh, I know," she exclaimed brightening up. "Five went for embroidery, two for gloves, and let me see, the rest went—yes I know. It's all right."

"But that isn't telling how much you have left."

"Well, I'll count again," and the curly head was bent over the purse, but was quickly raised, to say with a very red face:

"Only a dollar, mamma, in small change."

Nothing was said in response to this, but Adelaide and Jo looked amused, while the mother and Annie seemed puzzled. Upon adding the different sums together the five people were found to be possessed of an even sixty dollars.

"I suppose you have some back wages, Addie and Jo?"

The girls nodded assent, and then the mother proceeded:

"We shall have to live very close this winter, but with economy we may be comfortable. I shall have to ask Addie and Jo to pay into the expense purse six dollars a week instead of five, and if I can get any sewing to do, I may be able to do the same. We shall have to discharge Hallelujah, and work a little harder ourselves. I dare say we shall get through the winter much better than we anticipate."

But even as she said this Mrs. Stillman could hardly repress a sigh.

It was hard to lose all that hard-earned money, and all the philosophy and patience which she could summon to her aid didn't make it at all pleasant to contemplate.

At this juncture Hallelujah put her black head into the dining room door.

"Please, Missus Stillman, I 'most forgot to tell you, but de flour is out, and de coffee and de shugah, and, oh yes, dere ain't another drop o' dat dere golden lasses; I squeezed de jug fur de nellies dis mornin'. Specs you'll have to get some more, 'cause Laury, dere, is so mighty fond o' lasses," and with a broad grin at "Laury, dere," Hallelujah's face disappeared.

"Not half as fond as she is of the lads," said Alelsaide, in a stage whisper to Jo.

But Laura did not propose to hear, and with her face wrinkled into what seemed to her the proper expression of despair, she exclaimed:

"Oh dear! Everything is out, and so are we," but suddenly realizing that the unpleasant state of affairs was something that could not be chased away with a laugh, she quickly burst into tears as she said:

"I really don't see how we are going to manage it."

Laura's tears were a signal for the weary mother, who soon gave way to her feelings, leaving Adelaide and Annie to follow in a tearful shower.

But Jo, the silent partner, as the girls had long since dubbed her, didn't propose to give way to such weakness, although her eyes were a little misty as she exclaimed:

"Nonsense, girls! I would not be babies any longer, you ought to be ashamed of yourselves, too, infringing upon mother's right, who, because she has been sick, and isn't strong yet, ought to be allowed to cry in peace. If I were mother, I'd have you arrested for trespass, or infringement of patent."

Laura looked up, indignant.

"Mother Nature holds the patent on tears, I reckon, and we are all heirs of tears, forever. What you know about patents would not make a book."

"But what I know about grown up babies, would. There have been harder times at sea than this, and for my part I've no fears of going hungry, at least for some weeks. Good gracious, Laura! your eyes are red, your nose more so, and the tears have washed the paint off in streaks. What if Ralph *should* happen to drop in?"

A ring at the bell, as if in corroboration of Jo's words made Laura jump to the mirror to find Jo guilty of "extreme exaggeration," as she quickly informed her.

But it was only the postman, with a note for Jo, which she quickly transferred to her pocket, while the other girls asked in a breath:

"Why don't you read it?"

With very red cheeks, Jo made answer:

"Because I do not want to."

Which concise reply made the sisters exchange knowing looks, and suffices for the time, to draw their thoughts away from their trouble.

"Adelaide," said the mother, at last, "won't you and Jo be late? It is a quarter past eight now?"

"Yes," said Adelaide, putting on her hat, with a sigh. "It's time we were off. Come, Jo."

"You may tell Mr. Hickman to put me down for an hour's lost time; I am not coming at present. Here, take Laura with you, and tell Conny to show her those Lisle thread hose we were speaking of yesterday. Conny promised to make a reduction."

A moment later, and the mother and Jo were alone. The door had hardly closed, when Jo's arms were around her mother's neck, and the two were weeping out their sorrow together; for Jo had given way at last.

Even with all her bravery, Jo's heart had been aching terribly the whole morning; but more for her mother than herself, and it had cost her not a few pangs to come to the resolve which she was now about to confess.

"Mother," she began falteringly, "You know you have often asked me what I have done with my money, and I never would tell you anything except that it was safe. You never have pressed me, and now I'm going to tell you, I've only got a hundred and fifty dollars, but it's in U. S. bonds and good. I want you to take it to help Laura and yourself, but don't say a word about it. Now don't shake your head so sadly. You can pay me back when better times come. Keep it for a reserve fund you know. I'm going to bring Laura the dress, but you mustn't tell, and then there'll be a hundred dollars for you. I've only about twenty dollars back wages, and I must fix myself up a little. If we are all economical, I think we can get along. And there's one other thing, I don't want you to take in sewing this winter, for I don't think you are strong enough. We three girls ought to be able to take care of you for one winter, and when Laura's married you know that'll be so much less, for somehow it costs a good deal to keep a lot of hearty girls," and Jo finished with a feeble smile.

"Yes, but what would I do without my hearty girls, and my heroic Jo,——"

"Now don't mother, I am not a bit heroic, and if you call me that I shall bolt the course. I'm not a bit like the 'goody' girls of story books, for I do like money and nice things, and it wasn't entirely easy to resolve to buy Laura that dress, for if she hadn't been such a spendthrift, she might have had as much money as I have."

"I know," sighed the mother, "Laura seems very thoughtless in regard to money matters. By the way, do you know what became of her fifteen dollars?"

Jo hesitated for a moment, and then said with a trifle of bitterness. "The most of it went for oysters and confectionery. She met a lot of her girl friends down town, and they knowing her so well, and finding that she had a little money, pounced upon her, as girls will, and made her 'treat.' I'd like to see any of 'em make me spend my money for 'em, if I didn't want to," and Jo's flashing eyes bore testimony for her.

"Laura is too easy, I am afraid. I wish she had some of your decision."

"If she had, she might be the prim old maid I am, instead of the lovable little beauty she is. It's hard to blame her when you love her so, and I'm a cross-grained old maid, or I wouldn't do it."

"No, it isn't that, Jo. It is your love of thrift," said the mother, affectionately, "Laura will have to learn; we all do."

"Yes," said Jo, thoughtfully, "and although it is a hard lesson, I suppose it is needed for the full perfection of our characters. But, somehow, mother," and here Jo looked up half smiles and half tears, "somehow, I'd rather not be quite so near perfection, and have a little more fun."

The mother smiled, but said not a word; knowing that the girl's heart was in the right, and understanding only too well how hard it is for a young girl to subdue all her longings for the bright and beautiful, and be altogether resigned, when seeing nothing but the bare bleak sketch of poverty before her.

But Jo was not one long given to repining. A passing regret, a little bitter outcry against the hard necessities of life, and she was ready to take up her burden again, and go cheerfully on her way.

"Well," she exclaimed, after a moment's thoughtful silence, "Time's up, and I must be on my way to the store. I'm pretty sure that we can get through the winter, mother, and if we do we are all right."

Bending down she gave her mother a comforting kiss, that brought the words, "God bless you, child. How could I live without you."

An instant later, and Jo was in the street. Putting her hand into her pocket for her gloves, she encountered the note which she had placed there some time before.

"Bless me! As true as you live, Jo Stillman, you had forgotten all about it."

A little pink blush tinged her cheek as she lingered a moment over the seal, but it crept higher and higher as she read, until her whole face was suffused with a happy glow, and happy eyes were shining through a mist of unshed tears. Had any inquisitive passer by looked closely at the plainly dressed young lady who was reading a note in the shadow of McLean's awning, he might have seen in that irradiated face a problem not at all difficult of solution. Jo's life suddenly burst into bloom; there wasn't anything bleak or bare about it now, and all the way down the dingy street, with one hand clasping the precious missive, Jo walked as one in a dream. Her thoughts ran something in this wise:

"Oh, Jo Stillman, ain't you a happy girl? Who would ever have thought that plain as you are, you would have won the love of such a man as John Dolway? This is what he meant when we parted at Westover last month in such a hurry, and I had to come home to take care of mother. He said he should write me and tell me about his plans, and so it seems I was one of them. I didn't dream of such a thing then, and how heavy hearted I was because I thought he was only my friend, and this is what has come of three weeks of summer sunshine at Westover. But—" A sudden thought struck Jo that, for a moment, made her turn pale, "I don't believe he knows that I am a shop girl, and that we are so poor. I was so glad to forget all about work that I don't believe I ever mentioned it, and unless Aunt Molly did, he don't know. Never mind, I'll write him all about it before I give him his answer; but he is so noble I don't believe it will make a bit of difference. Anyhow, if it does, I'm well rid of him; for if he can't love me when I work, he can't love me at all."

This last thought did not trouble Jo much, and all day she was as light-hearted as a bird. That night, long after the other girls were asleep, Jo sat writing her answer to Dolway. From the length of time it took, from the number of quires of paper that were spoiled, and the grave preoccupied face of the writer, the looker-on might have been forgiven the supposition that weighty matters of state were under consideration. And the supposition would not have been far from right; for the heart is no man's kingdom, and is it not a matter of weighty consideration when she surrenders it into another's keeping? The next morning the white winged messenger was sent on its way, and Jo, hugging her secret close, set to work with a will to keep up the spirits and the fortunes of the Stillman family.

It was an easy task to prepare a trousseau out of the limited allowance; but Jo worked with nimble fingers far into the night, and made up for scant quantity by superior neatness and taste. Only those who have been placed in similar positions can tell how much can be made out of almost nothing, with the addition of a little patience and ingenuity. Old dresses that had been dispatched to the garret as beyond all presentability, once more saw the light of day, to be, by some sort of leger-de-maine, suddenly developed into marvels of prettiness. And one old silk that Adelaide had worn for a second best for three winters, was sponged, pressed and reconverted by Miss Stillman and Jo into a first-best for Laura, and out of eight really handsome dresses that composed Laura's wardrobe, only two were new. Laura told Ralph of this one day when he was inspecting the array, with something of pride in her voice. But when Ralph asked who had been the maker, she was obliged to confess to a simple superintendence. "That is," she explained, with a laugh, "I looked on while mother and Jo worked. Jo says engaged people don't amount to anything, anyway."

Which assertion Ralph, of course, disputed.

At last everything was ready, and Laura, arrayed in the coveted traveling dress, felt at ease about the legality of the marriage. A wedding is always a solemn thing, let there be ever so much happiness in it, and no one noticed except the mother how extremely pale and weary-eyed Jo was looking. And even the anxious mother only saw overwork in the pale face and *distrait* manner. Not one amongst them guessed the true reason why Jo burst into tears as the ceremony was being said, nor why, when it was all over, she rushed away without a word or congratulation for bride and groom. Poor Jo crept off to her room to stay until the good-byes were said, and then she heard Laura and Ralph asking for her. She went down to be kissed by both and told to rest a whole month, for she was looking shockingly.

"When I come back, Jo, I shall expect to find you your old rosy self," were Laura's good-bye words. But somehow Jo did not grow back into her old self again. Even when she had put away all hope, and knew that henceforth John Dolway must be to her as one dead, she did not regain her old light-heartedness. Instead of her former frank credulity, which led her to believe in every one's honesty, came a doubt and distrust of even those whom she loved. It came at last to be a subject of remark among her sisters that Jo was a skeptic. But it was in this alone that she was changed; in all else, in her kindness, patience and industry she was still the old Jo, and though they all marveled, none dared to ask what had brought about this change. Jo's Westover experience had never been mentioned by her, and for this reason no one knew of John Dolway, nor of the letter that had never been answered.

The truth is John Dolway was a coward; he had become infatuated with Jo's freshness and intelligence; but the feeling that he dignified by the name of pride would not admit of his marrying a shop girl, and so, somewhat regretfully, to do him justice, he let the letter remain unanswered while all the beauty died out of Jo's life. With many privations the winter wore away, Jo and Adelaide working late and early, and the mother and Annie using all their ingenuity to "make both ends meet."

But the Spring brought more work. Mrs. Stillman took a school again, and having reinstated Hallelujah Annie found time to earn quite a little sum by stitching for a ladies' furnishing house. By June the Stillman fortunes were looking up a little and Adelaide obtained leave of absence for a few weeks visit at Westover at Aunt Molly's. Jo had been pressed to go, but declined, and all through the hot summer months worked steadily away without a complaint; but the over-exertion told on her. Before the summer was half gone she had begun to grow wan and heavy-eyed. Yet she would not give up.

Now it happened that Mr. James Hickman, the junior member of the firm of Hickman Bros., a handsome, well-preserved bachelor of forty, had long watched with quiet but unfailing interest the fortunes of the Stillman family, and seeing the brave, courageous spirit with which the girls met their misfortunes, had taken it upon himself to fall in love with both Addie and Jo. It had been a great puzzle to him to know which of the sisters he really admired the most, but beholding her to grow pale from care and overwork, his sympathetic heart soon decided in her favor, and he was not long thereafter in bearing testimony of this. Little baskets of fruit, delicate clusters of fragrant exotics, selected with exquisite taste, and occasional volumes of poetry, soon found themselves at Mrs. Stillman's door for Miss Jo., with Mr. Hickman's compliments hidden somewhere amongst them, and Jo would acknowledge them with a grateful word, but no heightening of color, or happy lighting of the eyes.

One day Mr. Hickman missed her from her place, and upon despatching a messenger to learn the cause, was met by the announcement that Miss Stillman was very ill with brain fever. Somehow, he was never able to tell the precise manner of his transportation. Mr. Hickman found himself in Mrs. Stillman's parlor, explaining to that lady how much he loved her daughter, and asking to be allowed the privilege of doing something for her comfort and welfare.

This Mrs. Stillman found herself almost compelled to grant, and for the three weeks of Jo's serious illness, he haunted the house like a shadow, bringing so much comfort into it, that the good lady became quite anxious lest Jo should, in one of her perverse moods, refuse to give him the reward of his kindness. But as Jo came back to reason, Mr. Hickman's visits became less frequent, he trying to content himself with little messages of flowers and fruit.

It was the second week of Jo's convalescence, and the pale and pretty invalid, in a pink wrapper, was taking her first whole hour of sitting up in the easy chair, when Mr. Hickman presented himself with a desperate resolve in his heart.

"He really could not wait any longer, his hungry heart must have something to feed on or he should go wild. In the event of a refusal he was prepared to do almost any of the approved things that rejected lovers are supposed to do. Seriously, however, this thought had troubled him a great deal, for Jo had never given him a single word of encouragement.

As he entered the little sitting room, Jo held out her hand to him with a brighter smile upon her face than he remembered having seen there for some months. This seemed like a good augury, and he took the chair which Jo offered him, with a very comfortable feeling of satisfaction.

A little desultory conversation, and then the two relapsed into silence and a very eloquent one, after a while, for Jo looks up to find Mr. Hickman's eyes fixed upon her with a look she cannot mistake, and following close upon the look comes an outstretched hand and the words:

"Dear Jo, if you knew how much I love you."

And Jo takes the hand and says:

"I can guess."

After which neither speaks for some seconds, Mr. Hickman looking very happy the meanwhile, until an unpleasant thought seems to strike him, and he asks quickly:

"But you love me a little, don't you, Jo?"

To which Jo replies: "Yes, but I'm not at all acquainted with you."

"You shall have a lifetime for that, darling," and a tender, reverent kiss marks the beginning of an acquaintance that shall grow happier with each second of time.

"Don you believe in second love?" Jo asked suddenly.

Mr. Hickman gives an amused look into the face that is raised to his, and answers, Yankee like:

"Why do you ask?"

"Because—because you are not the first one I ever loved."

"I know it."

Jo's eyes are raised in puzzled enquiry.

"You talked about one John Dolway in your delirium, and I was terribly afraid you had let the rascal break your heart, but you haven't."

"No; he wasn't worth breaking one's heart over," and very quietly, without a word of regret, but with many a happy smile for the tender eyes watching her, Jo tells her story, and she ends it in this wise: "I suppose his fear of Mrs. Grundy wouldn't let him marry a shop girl."

"For which I am very thankful. If you hadn't been a shop girl, I am afraid I should never have known how much womanliness there is in the world, and, perhaps, if it hadn't been for those later misfortunes, I never would have learned how much of this womanliness lay in you, and not learning this, I might not have learned a sweeter lesson. So you see what adversity has done for you," adds Mr. Hickman, with truly masculine vanity; "which, translated, means that I am to thank adversity for the loss of a poor lover, and the finding of a better one," and Jo looks up with an amused smile.

"Exactly," answers Mrs. Hickman.

But this was only the preface to Jo.'s second courtship. The courtship itself lasted through all the years of life that remained to her.

EMINENT WOMAN.

Entered according to the act of Congress, in the year 1872, by the author, in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

XXVII. Dolly Madison.

As the wife of the fourth President of the United States, as the only hostess of the Presidential mansion and the Republican Court, endowed with the rare gift of absolute social genius, and the pre-eminent society queen of the National Capital during the close of the eighteenth and the first two decades of the nineteenth century, and as the brave and patriotic wife and citizen who, unmoved by fear of personal danger, remained faithful to the post of duty, although the enemy's cannon thundered in her ears, and the invaders threatened the destruction of her home, Dolly Payne Madison richly merits a high rank among the few eminent American women of the primitive age of the Republic.

Dolly Payne was born in North Carolina, where her parents had gone on a visit from their home in Virginia, a few years subsequent to the middle of the eighteenth century (the exact date of her birth is not given by historians), though she remained a Virginian by nature, characteristics and residence in that State during the greater part of her life. She was a child of poverty, her parents, whose chief pecuniary means and consisted of slaves, having become converts to the faith of the Friends, or Quakers, before her birth, and according to the tenets of their religion had manumitted their bondmen, and in consequence thereof suffered from impoverished circumstances during the remainder of their lives. Like all people of their belief, they considered the thorough education of their child as the best heirloom and the richest inheritance which they could leave her. Consequently, notwithstanding their poverty, she received excellent scholastic advantages at Philadelphia, whither for her sake her family removed from Virginia during the early years of her girlhood, or rather the last years of her childhood. Nature had been lavish in her gifts to Dolly Payne, and to a quick understanding, a taste for study, a genial heart, and a social disposition, had united no inconsiderable share of personal beauty, and a certain charm of manners which fascinated all who came within the sphere of her pleasing influence, and these qualities were heightened by that true womanly worth and that rare *naivete* and simplicity of heart, which, like great genius, neither knows or feels age, and "blooms at sixty as fair as at twenty."

While she was thus thoroughly instructed in those branches of learning which tend exclusively to mental discipline, none of the polished accomplishments deemed requisite acquirements for the woman of the world, or society leader, were taught her, and it is gratifying to chronicle that her eminent success as a social queen during the meridian of her life, was due to the predominance of strong American common sense, and naturalness and womanly intuition, rather than to early acquaintance with the arts of dancing, music, painting, or even familiarity with French, the elegant language of conversation. Qualities such as Miss Payne possessed, are seldom had in obscurity, and thus, though unblessed by wealth or exalted social position, she had scarcely entered the first years of girlhood, when numerous suitors for her hand presented themselves, from among whom she chose a Mr. Todd, a young Philadelphia lawyer, like herself a member of the society of friends. He was endowed with no extraordinary gifts, and possessing neither good health, nor the enjoyment of affluent pecuniary means, her life from the date of this marriage to her first widowhood was one of extreme simplicity and seclusion, and passed in strict observance of the religious dress of the sect of which she was a member. Nevertheless her drab dress and quaker bonnet concealed, not the fascinations of a beauty, which was in its zenith of meretricious adornment, and which in the language of the poet is "Worn unadorned adorned the most," and in spite of all her efforts to the contrary she became known to the social circles of the Quaker City as a woman of no ordinary attractions, and one whose superior talents were equaled by her intrinsic worth.

After a few years of happy married life, her husband died, and she, with her only child, an infant son, returned to share the home of her widowed mother. Here Mrs. Todd had planned to pass her life, in the rearing and education of her child, and that domestic obscurity so congenial to the womanly heart, when robbed by death of its friend, companion and support. But the

Destiny which shapes our ends,
Rough hew them as we will,

sought her out and withdrew her from her voluntary retirement, and, without the aid of fortune, fashion or exalted social rank, drew her within the most polished, refined and intelligent circles of Philadelphia society, where she soon became a universal favorite, and to which she was as thoroughly adapted as though she had never been without the pale of its influence. At once cordial, frank, gay and intelligent, without *hauteur* or false pride, her rare goodness of heart, truthful simplicity and winning manners again attracted scores of suitors, most of whom were distinguished by talents, high social rank and wealth, and from among their number she gave the preference to Mr. James Madison, a leading young member of Congress from Virginia, and a lawyer of more than ordinary ability, their marriage taking place in 1794.

The immediate period succeeding her second marriage opened a new and happy era to the still youthful bride, as for the first time in her life she found herself in easy, competent pecuniary circumstances. When Mr. Madison's official duties did not require his presence at the Capital, they lived at his delightful ancestral estate of Montpelier, at the foot of the Blue Ridge, in Orange county, Virginia, a location remarkable for beauty of scenery and a salubrious climate. Here, in accordance with her husband's and her own views, she dispensed that abundant and cordial hospitality which was such a distinguishing characteristic of the early statesmen of the Republic, and particularly of the Virginians. At every season of the year her house was filled with guests, who remained weeks, and even months, and often, too, with servants and equipages. They came unceremoniously and always found a welcome at her generous board, and a cordial reception to the social joys and pleasures of her domestic circle. Her widowed mother and fatherless sisters now shared her home, as she had done theirs during the period of her own widowhood, and her heart was cheered by the unceasing kindness and respect of her husband towards her kindred, for which she manifested the warmest gratitude in her unselfish devotion to his aged mother, who, though dwelling under the same roof with her son, kept up an entirely separate establishment, retaining the manners and customs of her youthful days, with her old family servants and presenting in every respect a perfect contrast to those improvements of more modern life, with which her daughter-in-law loved to surround herself. The most amicable and friendly relations always subsisted between these two remarkable women. The mother of Mr. Madison was gifted with a fine intellect, and took extreme delight in reading, in which diversion she passed a great portion of her later years. Although she attained the age of ninety-seven, her sight never failed, which was the more remarkable, since her general health was not good. Shortly before her death she paid a high eulogium to the tender care of her daughter-in-law, saying that, though feeble and helpless, she was never at a loss to pass her time, since her books and her knitting gave her constant employment, and as for the rest, she depended wholly upon her daughter, concluding with the pathetic remark, "She is my mother now, and tenderly cares for all my wants."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A Yankee Notion.

[Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist.]

A joint stock company of a very novel but useful character is being formed in Boston, and will apply to the Legislature for a charter. The company proposes to guarantee the honesty of persons it recommends for all fiduciary trusts, and hence becomes pecuniarily responsible for their derelictions. Of course this is in its nature an insurance company, and persons who desire to obtain positions of trust will be expected to take out guarantee policies, when their services will naturally become of higher value to employers. We do not see why an organization of this kind may not become one of the institutions of the age. Just imagine the catechism an applicant for a policy would have to go through: "Did you ever steal watermelons when a boy?" "Have you ever been a carpet-bagger?

In an account of the marriage ceremonies of the Esquimaux given by Dr. Hayes, he says: "The match is made by the parents of the couple. The bridegroom must go out and capture a polar bear as an evidence of manly courage and strength. Then he is told he can marry, if so inclined, and like most bachelors he is generally so inclined. He sneaks behind the door of his inamorata, and when she comes out he pounces upon her and undertakes to bear her away to his dog-sledge. She kicks, bites, screams and breaks away from him. He chases her, and the old women of the settlement come out with from a stripe of sealskin and give her a thwack. After running the gauntlet of those old women she falls down exhausted, and surrenders. The bridegroom then lashes her to his sledge, and whipping up his dogs, they fly over the frozen snow, and the wedding is consummated."

"Did You Break the Pitcher?"

From the Lee Journal.

Mr. Hornaby, of Pond du Lee, stumbled to go down cellar the other night to get a pitcher of beer. His wife warned him not to break the pitcher. He slipped on the first stair and fell to the bottom, skinning his knees and knees, bumped his head, bruised his nose, tore his coat, and landed on the cellar floor a total wreck, but saving the pitcher. Mrs. Hornaby called to him in horrified accents, "Mr. Hornaby, Mr. Hornaby, did you break the pitcher?" He growled back, "No, I didn't run by answer I will." And so did.

RELIGIOUS.

A creedless church has generally too much religion to suit one class, and not enough to suit another.

Said Fenelon, "When we are Christians we can no longer be cowards. The essence of Christianity is the contempt of this life and love of another.

The *Universalist* quotes the *Christian Union's* definition of Congregationalism as absolute independency, theologically, morally and spiritually, and reprobates it as altogether too lax for Universalism, which represents, it says, "fixed principles and a polity corresponding."

The *Christian Standard* of Cincinnati has reported for the last year an increase of 21,067 members in the Christian Church. This is about 3,000 more than was reported the year before. It is believed that the increase in this denomination is considerably above the figures stated by the *Standard*.

The *Catholic Telegraph* says, as it is more than probable that the Company of Jesus will be robbed by the Mexican Liberals and expelled from the country, they are making provision for a settlement in Texas. Father Artois, the Provincial of Mexico, has already chosen sites for three colleges.

Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, advocates a relaxation in the use of the liturgical forms of the Episcopal Prayer-book to suit the present methods of thought and the state of society, believing that such modification would do more than anything else to place the Church on advanced ground.

Truth, whether in or out of fashion, is the measure of knowledge, and the business of the understanding; whatsoever is beside that, however authorized by consent or recommended by rarity, is nothing but ignorance, or something worse.

If we could find a man who had a heart sweet all through, and a genius will; without subtility, yet of sound reason; at once wise and simple. He who has seen such a heart, has colors wherewith he may picture to himself what an angel is.

Preaching must always remain an instrument of power, not only indestructible, but superior to all other modes of personal influence in the propagation and dissemination of large truths relying on generally accepted bases, as those of religion may be said to do.

Rev. J. P. Smith has been engaged as a missionary in Tennessee to represent the Swedenborgian theory, but does not propose to organize New Church societies. He preaches, wherever he goes, the Gospel according to Swedenborg, and the churches generally accord to him a respectful hearing.

There is likely to be another stir in Brooklyn Presbyterian circles over the second appearing of Miss Sawtery in one of their pulpits—that of the Memorial Church. Three ministers and two elders have been appointed by the Presbytery to gather the facts officially, and report the same at the next meeting.

Bishop Cummins announces that until further notice he will preach every Sunday morning in Steinway Hall, and every Sunday evening in Lyric Hall, in New York. Three laymen, it is said, have subscribed $10,000 each toward a suitable edifice for the Reformed Protestant Episcopal Church in that city.

A man in his selfishness rejects the greatest good which is in his power to obtain for himself and to promote for others, and chooses the less and inferior pleasure in preference to that higher good. And for the sake of the inferior pleasure he sacrifices the highest good.—*Metcalf.*

A superior mind asserts itself, first by controlling its own impulses, and then by sympathetically governing others. Mere coercion fails, even with an idiot; the mind cannot be brought out into intercourse except a beneficent will engage the subjective mind agreeably.—*Dr. Magoon.*

The intellect of man sits visibly enthroned upon his forehead and in his eye, and the heart of man is written upon his countenance. But the soul reveals itself in the voice only, as God revealed himself to the prophet of old in the still small voice, and in the voice from the burning bush.—*Longfellow.*

Let the preacher recollect that he talks to the fathers of thankless children, to the struggling artisan or tradesmen, to the young man about to enter life or who has just begun it; to the poor seamstress with her sorely tried powers, and the young gentlewoman who seeks some clue to her destiny in the best mode of distributing her energies and employing her time; to the widow and the fatherless, to the prosperous and wealthy, with their danger and responsibilities. All these varying circumstances of life, and many others, which are found in every church and in every congregation, should be distinctively recognized and admonished with an earnest, fervent, and loving thoughtfulness.

Kwanghsiu, a converted Chinese, who, in America as a visit, was fully impressed with the fine difference he saw between the style of living of many professing Christians and the men of the world. After trying to the utmost on one occasion, he said, looking at the same time a large sweep with his arm. "When the strangers to any country come out of the world, they come over out." The observation, too, came clear out; for the Apostle Paul could say of them: "Ye were strangers at all, that heard of Nazareth and Arimea." They did not regard themselves from grossness, and remain united with others in various and sinful; but they turned to God from idols, to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven.

It was an old Bible, a family Bible, a well-worn Bible—the Bible of an old lady who had read it, and worked here, and had on it, and prayed over it, for a long lifetime. As the eyes grew dim and older and older, and the hand trembled more and more, and the feet began to fail, and the head to nod for feebleness, and the candle was not sufficient to see without, and the old lady was called away to her home, she took a pair of specs, shut the book, and after her death they covered the dusted and [illegible] night. It was years and years before any one looked in it, and then it was found that the old lady had been reading it, for her specs were found in it, where she had left them. Here and there were marks, and [illegible] "Read here," and she knew pretty well what there was to read in the one and what by this one. But there was one [illegible] more precious than all the rest. It bore upon its face the marks of many tears. It bore upon its face the marks of many prayers. It bore upon its face the marks of many kisses. It was the one above gold, you above fine gold. They are sweeter to her than honey and the honeycomb.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEB. 12, 1874.

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THE MORMONS IN NAUVOO.

Reports are in circulation that the orthodox Jo. SMITH Mormons are about to return to Nauvoo under the leadership of that prophet's son, who has refused to recognize the authority of BRIGHAM YOUNG, and has, with a body of other dissenters like himself, been living for some time in Plain, Ill., where he and his followers have won the good opinions of their neighbors by their moral and peaceable conduct and by their strict adherence to the laws of Illinois, and of the United States. These people neither believe in nor practice polygamy, and as they are represented as industrious and enterprising, no opposition is manifested to their return to their original home. If Jo. SMITH succeeds in establishing his colony at Nauvoo, it is argued that large bodies of dissatisfied Mormons will leave Utah and join his standard, when the rebuilding of the temple is anticipated. Nauvoo at present is an unenterprising town of 1,600 inhabitants, and the proposed return of SMITH and his followers is already regarded as auguring its future growth, importance and increased prosperity, since those people represent all trades and professions and will bring considerable pecuniary wealth to aid in the establishment of manufactories, and the development of industrial pursuits. Nauvoo is beautifully located, upon a high hill with gradual slope backward and possesses natural attractions of which few other cities on the Mississippi can boast. Speculations regarding her future greatness are said to have already advanced the price of her city lots, while many of her people aver that without polygamy, they will gladly welcome the Mormons from more noble motives than mercenary ones.

THE AMERICAN METROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

An association under this name was recently formed in New York, with the object of inaugurating a reform in the present system of weights, measures and moneys in use in the United States, which it is averred now fail to meet the requisite requirements of the day. The assertion is also made that those who have studied into matters pertaining to the above mentioned subject, concede that the French metric system is the most simple and accurate now known, and that its imitation would be a great improvement upon our own. Mathematicians sustain these views, and further assert that the process of changing yards, feet and inches into metres and their modifications, and the work of reducing standards in everything when weighing or measuring is required, compounds the labor and greatly interferes with accuracy. The Association do not propose a sudden or radical change, believing that time is required to effect the reformation, and in the meantime it is their purpose to afford all information possible to the American people upon the subject, both through the press and the schools, and to continue their labors until a gradual change will have accomplished the desired result, by the decrease of needless labor and the perfection of a system more adaptable to the wants of the day than the present one.

☞ It begins to look as though the Democratic members of the Ohio Legislature might find it somewhat difficult to seize the keys of the State Treasury by setting aside the vote of the people. The attempt will be made, however, and there are unscrupulous men at the preliminary work, so we may as well be [illegible]

A NEW WATER LINE.

The country is now pretty well satisfied that the only way in which cheap transportation can be secured is by the construction of new and the improvement of existing water routes. Congress undoubtedly realizes the fact that this is the only way in which the question which is now pressed upon their attention so earnestly can be solved. The Senate Committee appointed to investigate the question of transportation during the Congressional recess, have reported in favor of water instead of rail, and only private interests are now urging the construction of Railroads through Government aid. The public good demands water transportation, and Congress shows a disposition to take some steps looking to the relief of the Western producing classes by opening up and improving water lines.

In view of the expense now attending the operation of Railroads, and its probable increase in the future, the General Government should take steps to encourage the construction and improvement of such water lines as the interests of the people demand. Quite a number of gentlemen who are interested in the carrying of produce to market from the West, have had this subject under consideration, and have made investigations which warrant them in the conclusion that the best and cheapest method for meeting the wants of a vast extent of country at the West, is to enlarge the Wabash & Erie Canal to Terre Haute and extend the Canal from that place to St. Louis, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. This Canal would drain the richest portions of Indiana and Illinois, and at the same time afford direct water communication for all products West of St. Louis from that city to the Eastern and European markets.

Persons who are familiar with the proposed route express no doubt as to an abundant supply of water, and the entire feasibility of the project. St. Louis is the receiving and distributing point for the whole country west of the Mississippi, and direct water communication with Lake Erie would insure cheap transportation for all time to come, not only for the sections of country in the vicinity of the canal, but for the entire people west of the "Father of Waters." The length of the Wabash & Erie Canal is 250 miles, and the distance from Terre Haute to St. Louis would be about 150 miles, making the total canal length 400 miles. It is a low estimate to say that the lands for a distance of ten miles from the canal, upon either side, would be enhanced in value to the amount of two dollars per acre by such improvement, which would amount to about ten and a quarter millions for the entire distance, which sum, it is estimated, will equal one-half the cost of the improvement. A canal of proper size would enable a tug to tow grain barges carrying as much grain as two trains of cars, at the rate of from four to six miles per hour, and at about one-half the usual Railroad charges.

By reference to the map, it will be seen that this water line affords St. Louis almost an air-line water route to Europe, the canal running in the same general direction of the St. Lawrence River, thus affording the most direct water route possible for the people of the West to reach Europe *via* the St. Lawrence River, or New York *via* the Erie Canal or Lake Champlain. A mere glance at this route must satisfy any one that it would meet the wants of a larger scope of country than any other project yet named, and that its cost would be light compared with any other improvement affording equal advantages.

The proposition is one which merits investigation, and the Government should cause an examination of the route to be made, with estimates of the cost of construction. Under suitable laws providing for aiding such improvements, the counties chiefly benefitted by it in Indiana and Illinois might assist in its construction. At all events, let the route be surveyed and its advantages presented. What the people want is the best and cheapest means for reaching market, and this line runs through a most fertile country, taps the entire trade west of the Mississippi, and can be made ready for use at a cost of little over one-third the amount which would be required to secure an equal amount of benefits through any other channel.

LOOK FOR NO RETRENCHMENT.

We regret to say that prospects are not very flattering for retrenchment on the part of Congress. Members cannot rise above a selfish motive, and each one consults his prospects for re-nomination and election, rather than the general good. Each particular locality has some scheme for improvement at the expense of the General Government, and each member feels that a failure on his part to secure the desired appropriation may result in his retirement from public life. Members of Congress are not entirely at fault in this matter. They feel that they represent a local constituency, and that their action must accord with the views and wishes of those whom they directly represent. Of course, the object of having Congress composed of members thus representing a local and comparatively small constituency, was to secure to the people the most perfect representation of their wishes and sentiments possible. It is not remarkable, therefore, that the members of Congress representing Cincinnati should be clamorous for the immediate expenditure of a few millions of dollars in that city for the erection of a new postoffice building. No journals in the country have been more clamorous for retrenchment of Government expenses than those of Cincinnati, and yet if any one presumes to think that the people of that city can put up with the accommodations which have been regarded as ample and satisfactory for many years, for just one year longer, they pounce upon him like a pack of ravenous wolves. Under such circumstances, it cannot be expected that the members of Congress from Cincinnati will favor any measure designed to postpone the erection of their postoffice building.

We only bring up the case of Cincinnati as an illustration of the influences which operate to prevent the adoption of any system of reform in expenditures affecting purely local interests. Each member of Congress has some scheme for securing the expenditure of public money in his district. Rather than fail to secure such expenditure and thereby secure a "claim" upon his constituents, he will consent to favor the schems of at least one half of the other members. He must not only dispose of his votes in the House in such a manner as to secure help for his scheme, but he must "log-roll" with Senators. Thus, it will be seen, each member has a project, which he is so anxious to secure that he will vote for unnecessary expenditures in other localities for the purpose of securing votes for his pet measure. We are not surprised, therefore, that the House of Representatives effectually killed the proposition to economize expenditures on public buildings. We look for retrenchment only in quarters where it can be made without affecting the political prospects of members of Congress. The people are largely at fault in this matter. They should come to the help of their members of Congress and give them to understand that they will be sustained in opposing every expenditure which can possibly be dispensed with. With such assurances from their constituents, members of Congress would study economy and only make appropriations where the general interests of the country demanded it. They would not appropriate money for the improvement of some harbor for the accommodation of a sawmill, to the neglect of a harbor like that of Toledo in which the people of the entire West have an interest. But people are selfish and members of Congress are politicians; so we must advise the public not to count too confidently upon reforms in Government expenditures during the present session of Congress.

FRANCISCO SERRANO.

All who have the success of free republican institutions sincerely at heart, cannot fail to lament the accession of FRANCISCO SERRANO to the Presidency of Spain, and the retirement of the noble, the enlightened, though perhaps impolitic CASTELAR, since under the new regime, improvement in the political and social condition of that most unfortunate country is for the present, at least, beyond hope. No more radical differences of character ever existed in two political leaders than those which divide CASTELAR and SERRANO. To eminent patriotism and able and liberal statesmanship, CASTELAR unites firm principles of honor, truth and rectitude, and it is lamentable for his country that he is so little of a politician that the crafty *coup d'etat* of his enemies and rivals was successful, and that his withdrawal from the Presidency was succeeded by one who is chiefly known as a political trickster and intriguer, whose advent to power cannot be viewed in any other light than as a disaster to Spain.

FRANCISCO SERRANO was born in 1810, and entered the Spanish army at the age of fourteen. He has never been a believer in political freedom and has always advocated monarchial and military rule. Largely instrumental in the overthrow of ESPARTERO, he entered into a coalition with NARVAEZ to defeat OLOZAGE immediately after the restoration of the Queen-mother. Subsequent to the marriage of ISABELLA in 1846, his intimacy and influence with that profligate and licentious woman created great scandal in Spanish court circles, and many disgraceful domestic scenes between the Queen and her husband. His influence however remained in the ascendent for some years, and the ministry of the Duke DE SATOMAYOR which opposed him was destroyed, while his vengeance fell upon all who opposed him or stood in the way of his advancement. After frequent quarrels with ISABELLA, he found that he was losing her favor, and uniting with her enemies he drove her out of Spain, after he was assured of the ascendency of the Liberal party, to whose prominent leaders he made overtures, which were accepted, and as a recompense he was created Captain General of Grenada. In 1854, he was exiled for having become implicated in the insurrection of Saragossa, but returned to Spain a few months thereafter, and became an active supporter of the O'DONNELL and ESPARTERO Cabinet. A quarrel arising between these two Generals, he sided with O'DONNELL, who had the most strength, and from him received the appointment of Captain General of New Castile, a position which placed Madrid in his power. The *coup d'etat* of 1856 being the next important political event of Spain, SERRANO played into the hands of O'DONNELL, and was further rewarded by the latter by being created Duke de la Torre. The following year he was sent as Embassador to France, two years later he was recalled and received the post of Director and Colonel General of Artillery, and in 1865 was raised to the position of Captain General of Madrid. In the revolution of 1868, he worked with PRIM and was, de facto, the head of the Provisional Government. Subsequently he was elected Regent, and under AMADEUS, was the leader of the Ministry and the most ardent supporter of the young King.

In 1872 he received the appointment of Generalissimo of the Armies against the Carlists, and after the abdication of AMADEUS, and the proclamation of the Republic, he fled from Madrid in dismay, in the disguise of a peasant, and a short time subsequent when CASTELAR became President returned to Spain, and by professing great friendship for the new Republic completely lulled the suspicions of CASTELAR, while he was secretly plotting and intriguing for his overthrow and downfall. During his whole career SERRANO has been connected with, and owed every position of elevation to intrigue, dishonor and treason to the Government whose pretended adherent he was. He has committed as many perjuries as he can count years of public life, and all his actions have manifested a piratical contempt of law and civic authority. As yet he has foreshadowed no policy, nor declared any intentions which can merit the approval or command the esteem of the enlightened world. Eminently, he presents a living embodiment of that wretched system of military treason to which modern Spain owes her unfortunate and unhappy political and social condition, and which is the disastrous result of combined monarchical, military and ecclesiastical rule. Entirely destitute of that moral courage which enabled CASTELAR to face popular condemnation and disapproval, when justice and the necessities of the country demanded it, no improvement in the present unhappy condition of Spain can be expected, since she has chosen as her executive head the most unprincipled and corrupt of her soldiers and politicians, under whose government progress in the right direction is impossible.

☞ The New York *Graphic* states that a dollar is one hundred and twelve and five-tenths grains of silver, or twenty five and eight-tenths grains of gold. That is not true. Neither of these amounts of silver or gold would be a legal tender on the part of a debtor to his creditor. A bushel of wheat, or two bushels of corn, may just as properly be called a dollar as the above quantity of either silver or gold. It is the Government stamp which makes the dollar, not the metalic substance upon which it is impressed. The Government stamp on a greenback makes it one dollar just as effectually as it makes a dollar when placed upon gold or silver metal. We are surprised that the *Graphic* should think that mere metal is money, no matter how precious the metal may be. Upon that principle, diamonds would be the best kind of money. But such is not the case. It is singular what a disposition there is to believe that money is an independent something—that it is not a representative of Government credit. The coin of different countries possesses distinct value, and American gold coin may be as much below the value of coin made by some other Government, as our paper currency is below the gold standard. Pure gold has a market value, the same as other metal, but coin is not always pure, nor is it certain that the quantity stated by the *Graphic* is used in the coinage of either the gold or silver dollar, and yet the Government stamp makes it a dollar.

☞ It is given out that there is plenty of money in the Eastern States. That may be. We have already shown that Connecticut has about four times the currency, per capita, that is granted to Ohio, while her business necessities require but about one-fourth the amount needed in this State. The other Eastern States will average more than double the amount of currency granted to the West, in proportion to the actual demands of the people.

☞ It is announced that CALEB CUSHING will give attention to certain Senators who opposed his confirmation as Chief Justice, before departing for Spain. He had better adopt a different course, in our opinion. It matters not what said Senators may have done, heretofor; the country approves of the act which Mr. CUSHING cannot forgive, and he will only make the matter worse by keeping it stirred up.

☞ The House of Representatives, at Washington, instead of taking up a proposition, discussing it, and then voting upon it, indulges in speeches upon any and every subject which members may desire to talk about. That system would answer very well for a Friday afternoon school exercise, but when business is to be transacted, a different course would seem more effective.

☞ When GLADSTONE dissolved the British Parliament, a few days since, it became necessary for every member to be re-elected before taking his seat. It is said to cost each candidate an average of $12,000, whether elected or not, and as there will be at least four hundred cases contested, the aggregate expended upon the elections will run up into the millions.

☞ A law of Congress has been discovered which requires that the Departments in Washington shall be kept open for the transaction of business eight hours a day, between the 1st of October and the 1st of April, and ten hours a day between the 1st of April and the 1st of October. They are now kept open but six hours per day.

☞ The women's temperance movement has reached Indiana. It is the worst contagion for the saloon keepers that ever swept over the country. They can stand up against law and gospel, but when the women get upon their knees the resisting power ceases. Men never could contend against female tears and female supplications.

☞ General SHERMAN is not a believer in the "tufts of grass" policy in the treatment of Indian wrong-doers. He is evidently a believer in the "extermination" policy; but would it not be worth much sacrifice to preserve at least enough of Indians for a sample of the native inhabitants of this continent?

☞ Iowa now has a population of one and a quarter millions, being an increase of about a quarter of a million since 1870. Many of the leading men of Iowa are natives of Ohio, and we are gratified at the rapid development of all the wealth-producing resources of our sister State.

☞ In Indianapolis, a few weeks ago, a man endeavored to borrow ten thousand dollars upon Government bonds, and offered two per cent. a month, but could not obtain the currency. And yet, there are bankers in Indianapolis who pretend to believe that the people have all the currency required for the transaction of business.

☞ Cincinnati is now agitated about the "social evil," growing out of a proposition to regulate it, after the manner of the St. Louis system.

THE EUCALYPTUS GLOBULOUS.

The tree to which botanists give the above name is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable wonders of the vegetable kingdom, provided by a beneficent Providence to counteract the miasmatic influences which arise from low, damp and swampy localities. It is a native of Australia, and, until quite recently, has not received the attention from botanists and naturalists which its poison-destroying, purifying nature deserves. Its growth is rapid and it attains gigantic proportions. According to the English *Medical Times and Gazette*, well tested experiments demonstrate that it has the singular property of absorbing ten times its weight in water from the soil and of emitting a strong, anti-dyspeptic, camphorous effluvia, which counteracts the atmospheric effects of malarious vapors; when sown in marshy ground it soon dries up the water and renders the country salubrious. The first experiment made in its cultivation was by the British at the Cape of Good Hope, who planted it extensively, and in two or three years completely changed the climatic nature of entire malarious districts. Subsequent to their success it was tried in the fever stricken regions of Algeria, upon a very extensive scale, with equal success. Upon a large plantation in the vicinity of Algeria, noted far and wide for its extremely pestilential air, 13,000 of these trees were planted early in the spring, and the following July, when formerly neither Europeans, Asiatics, or Africans had escaped severe fevers and other miasmatic diseases, the results of which were frequently fatal, not a single case of even a mild type occurred, although the trees had attained only a growth of nine feet. Since then, the entire territory for miles around this forest of Eucalyptus, is not only completely free from fevers, but one of the most salubrious districts of Algeria.

Other similarly afflicted localities in Algeria have been rendered healthful in the same manner, many acres of marsh land having, by the abundant planting of trees, been transformed into beautiful parks, which effected the same beneficial climatic changes. In Cuba, wherever the same experiment has been tried, the result has been equally gratifying, fevers and all diseases of a miasmatic nature disappearing wherever the Eucalyptus has been introduced. A certain railroad station, in the midst of a pestilential swamp, was so unhealthy that no inducement could prevail upon the employes of the road to remain there longer than through one summer season. As a last resort, forty trees were planted around the immediate vicinity of the station, and as soon as they attained a good size, the place became as healthy as any on the line of the road.

The nature of this wonderful tree is tropical, nevertheless the experiment has not yet been tested of naturalizing it to semi-tropical regions, or those of the south temperate zone. Undoubtedly with care it might become acclimated to both these localities in all portions of our globe, and the yellow fevers which periodically decimate the population of the Gulf States and the south valley of the Mississippi, might, by planting forests of Eucalyptus, be freed forever from that terribly fatal scourge. Indeed, the experiment is well worth a trial everywhere, even in the green houses of northerly latitudes, and in our parlors during the winter months, if the tree can be dwarfed sufficiently, as its growth is rapid and its size gigantic. Where an equable temperature is kept, as may be easily done where steam, hot air, or coal stoves are used, there is no reason why the Eucalyptus might not be grown as are orange and lemon trees, indoors during winter and in the open air in the summer months. Like most tropical trees, it is probably ornamental, and would thus serve a double purpose, since it would beautify the surroundings and purify the atmosphere from malarious influences, which almost everywhere exist at periodical seasons.

SINGULAR CASE OF IDENTITY.

Portland, Maine, has just witnessed one of the most singular cases on record, in which the defendant was a woman variously called CATHARINE WALLER, alias CARRIE M. KENT, alias CARRIE M. WAITE, and whose maiden name, it was charged, was CATHARINE MCKENZIE. To commence at the beginning: In May, 1862, JOHN WALLER, at that time living in Pictou, Nova Scotia, was married to CATHARINE MCKENZIE, of the same place. Two children, one now eleven and the other seven years old, were the fruits of this marriage. In November, 1869, Mrs. WALLER came to the States to earn money enough to furnish the house. She stopped a portion of her time in Portland and the balance of the time in Boston, and seems to have been known as KATE WALLER, KATE WALLACE, and CARRIE M. KENT, and related various stories concerning her life. During all this absence it is reported that she corresponded with WALLER. The husband, JOHN WALLER, claims that early in 1873, his wife CATHARINE WALLER, married a man by the name of WAITE; so he had her arrested for bigamy.

The case came up for trial in Portland recently, the woman pleading mistaken identity. Mrs. WAITE and her husband were in Court at the appointed time. WALLER was sworn and testified that the woman in Court was his wife. WALLER's sister and his brother-in-law also identified the woman as the wife of JOHN WALLER. The girl of eleven years stepped up close to the woman and said, "yes, sir, that is my mother." The little boy said this was the woman who visited their home in July last and lived for a time with his father as wife, and that she bought him, the boy, a pair of boots and a jack-knife. Other witnesses were called, who knew this woman as CATHERINE M'KENZIE and as Mrs. WALLER.

The defendant is said to be quite a handsome woman and was unmoved during the trial. She introduced witnesses to show that she had been mistaken frequently for a woman known as CATHERINE WALLACE, who, it was claimed, was the real wife of WALLER, and of course swore positively that she knew nothing about WALLER or his children. She made quite a strong defense and the jury failed to agree, nine standing for acquittal and three for conviction.

This is really a most remarkable case, and will pass into the law books to afford precedent as a most singular case of mistaken identity, or of the ability of some persons to show that they are not themselves, but somebody else.

CONGRESS AND THE CURRENCY.

We are well convinced that Congress is not aware of the feelings and sentiments of the people upon the currency question—especially as the West, where there is an absolute lack of currency for ordinary business transactions. We are in constant receipt of letters urging us to appeal to Congress in behalf of the people for relief. As a sample of the letters which we receive from all sections of the West, we make the following extract from a business letter written by an intelligent gentleman who has been an earnest and efficient worker in the Republican party since its organization. The letter is dated at Philo, Ills., and the writer says:

As Grangers, we endorse the course you have taken in regard to the finances of the country, and say, "Cry aloud, and spare not," but urge our Congressmen to the necessity of increasing the currency of the country. I fear the leaders of the Republican party are not as true to the interests of the country as they should be. We are watching their actions closely and with deep interest, knowing that the salvation of the party is at stake, and that it will stand or fall, as its leaders may act. The patrons number in Illinois between 60,000 and 70,000 and are rapidly increasing. The large majority of us are Republicans and true to our old party, notwithstanding the efforts of political tricksters to organize a new party.

We might quote more from this and numerous similar letters, but the above is sufficient to indicate the feelings of the people at the West. They are oppressed by transportation charges and for the want of sufficient currency to transact ordinary business, and are disposed to adopt extreme measures rather than submit to these burthens much longer. They are generally Republicans and are exceedingly anxious to secure the remedies for the evils complained of through the party to which they are attached. Congress should give heed to the appeals of these suffering people. The Republican party cannot afford to assume that the people of the West do not know their own pressing necessities. The New York *Times* may suppose those people cannot think, but Congress must not assume so absurd a position. There may be an abundance of money in the Eastern cities, but it cannot be had at the West. Banks don't like to loan money so far from home. What the West needs is an amount of currency equal, in proportion to their necessities, to that given to the Eastern States under the Banking Law. That will insure them against future financial stress. This done, Congress should give attention to the question of transportation. Upon these two questions hinge matters of vast importance to the country, and of the greatest possible moment to the Republican party.

☞ Down at Hillsboro, the women's temperance movement has closed every saloon and the retail liquor features of two of the four drug stores. One druggist declared his right and purpose to sell his own prescriptions, and the other one only pledged himself not to violate the law. The ladies were not satisfied with this last pledge, so they commenced praying and singing for something better. The druggist finally sent a notice to each one of the ladies stating that if they did not cease annoying him and interfering with his business, he should be under the necessity of resorting to the law for protection. This notice was not heeded, and a board shanty was erected in front of the store, whereupon the refractory druggist applied to the Court and obtained an order for the removal of the shanty, and also secured an injunction restraining the ladies from giving him further annoyance. The ladies propose to test the authority of the Court to prevent them from singing and praying in front of the drug store.

☞ Our Washington "Probabilities" does not prophesy for many hours ahead. In that respect the Indians beat him. They claim that as the last two days of a month are, so will be the weather during the next month. Last Friday and Saturday were probably good enough days of their kind, but we don't care about a whole month of them, so we hope the Indian prophets may not be invariably correct.

☞ In a recent conversation between Judge EMMONS, of the United States Circuit Court, and members of the Detroit Bar, the Judge paid a high compliment to Chief Justice WAITE, remarking that an acquaintance for a quarter of a century convinced him that the new Chief Justice will fill the exalted position to which he has been called in a most creditable manner. And that is the testimony of all who know the man.

☞ In the District of Columbia, personal property has never been subject to taxation. Congress is disposed to make no appropriations for the District until the law undergoes a change in this respect, and in pursuing that course, the people will endorse their representatives.

☞ Washington City asks the General Government to give her nearly five millions of dollars, but protests against an investigation of the claim. The surface indications are not of the best character.

☞ Chicago has packed 252,489 more hogs this season than last, and she is still pegging away, though at a slow pace now.

☞ We are not prepared to believe the report that Russia declines to participate in our Centennial Exposition, on the ground that it is a private affair.

☞ Some irreverant individual declares that the last words of Dr. LIVINGSTONE were, "On, STANLEY, On!"

☞ People will hereafter have more tender regard for sawdust. A good brandy is now manufactured from it.

Senator Sherman's Currency Bill.

In the Senate on the 3d inst. Senator SHERMAN from the Finance Committee, reported a bill amendatory of the act of 1870 in relation the increase in circulation of National Bank to notes, and stated that the object of this bill was to have a more equal distribution of currency by the withdrawal of $25,000,000 from States in excess and the distribution of it in the West and South, among the States deficient. He said the bill met the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Comptroller of Currency, and every member of the Finance Committee, and he would call it up at an early day. The following is the full text of the bill:

"*Be it Enacted*, &c., That so much of the act of July 20, 1870, as provides that no circulation shall be withdrawn under the provisions of section 6 of said act until after the $54,000,000 granted in section 1, said act shall have been taken up, is hereby repealed; and it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of Currency, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, to proceed forthwith to carry into excution the provisions of section six of said act, and to enable him to do so he is hereby authorized and required, from time to time, as needed for the execution of said section, to make requisitions upon each of the National Banks described in said section, organized in States having an excess of circulation, to withdraw and return so much of their circulation as be apportioned to be withdrawn from them, or in lieu thereof to deposit in the Treasury of the United States lawful money sufficient to redeem such circulation; and upon return of the circulation required on deposit of the lawful money, as herein provided, an appropriate amount of bonds held to secure the circulation of such association as shall make such return or deposit shall be surrendered to it.

"SEC. 2. That upon the failure of National Banks upon which a requisition for circulation shall be made, or of any of them to redeem the amount required, or to deposit in the Treasury lawful money to redeem the circulation required within 30 days, the Comptroller of Currency shall at once sell, as provided in section 49 of the National Currency act of June 3, 1864, the bonds held to secure the redemption of the circulation of the association or associations which shall so fail, to an amount sufficient to redeem the circulation required of such association or associations; and with the proceeds, which shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States, so much of the circulation of such association or associations shall be redeemed as will equal the amount required and not returned; and if there be any excess of proceeds over the amount required for such redemption, it shall be returned to the association or associations whose bonds shall have been sold, and it shall be the duty of the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, designated depositories, and National Bank depositories of the United States, who shall be informed by the Comptroller of Currency of such associations as shall fail to return the circulation or to deposit of lawful money as required, the assent and return to the Treasury for redemption the notes of such association, as they shall come into their hands, until the amount required shall be redeemed.

"SEC 3. That from and after the passage of this act it shall be lawful for the Comptroller of Currency to issue circulating notes in the manner and proportion now provided by law to associations organized or to be organized in those States or Territories having less than their proportion of circulation, under an apportionment on basis of population and wealth as shown by returns of the census of 1870; provided that the whole amount of circulation issued to such banking associations, and withdrawn and redeemed from the banking associations under the provisions of this act, shall not exceed $25,000, and that such circulation shall, from time to time, be withdrawn and redeemed only as it shall be necessary to supply the banks in those States having less than their apportionment."

PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT.

The following is a recapitulation of the condition of the debt statement for the month ending January 31st, 1874:

Six per cent. Bonds	$1,218,798,150
Five per cent. Bonds	494,121,050
Total Coin Bonds	$1,712,749,200
Lawful Money Debt	14,678,000
Matured Debt	15,176,520
Legal Tender Notes	381,794,929
Certificates of deposit	45,560,000
Fractional Currency	47,700,333
Coin Certificates	45,004,000
Total without interest	$ 580,151,302
Total Debt	$2,292,750,113
Total interest	30,415,576
Cash in Treasury—	
Coin	85,359,369
Currency	4,781,305
Special deposits held for redemption of certificates of deposits as provided by law	45,360,000
Total in Treasury	$ 135,700,575
Debt less cash in Treasury	2,157,417,114
Decrease during the month	1,893,211

BONDS ISSUED TO PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANIES, INTEREST PAYABLE IN LAWFUL MONEY.

Principal outstanding	$ 64,623,512 00
Interest accrued and not yet paid	323,117 00
Interest paid by the United States	22,786,034 00
Interest repaid by transportation of Mails, etc	4,800,055 00
Balance of interest paid by the United States	17,986,136 0

☞ Attorney General WILLIAMS has written a long letter, designed to vindicate himself from the charges which resulted in the failure of the Senate to confirm his nomination to the Chief Justiceship. He makes some statements which displease Senators, and it is intimated that a strong pressure will be brought to bear to induce him to resign the Attorney Generalship.

☞ Mississippi, on Tuesday, elected two United States Senators. H. K. BRUCE, a colored man, who has been Sheriff of Butler county, was chosen for the full term, and H. R. PEASE, late Superintendent of Education, was elected to complete the unexpired term of Senator AMES. The leap from the Sheriff's saddle into the Senate is a long one.

☞ The Conservatives carried twenty-eight of the forty-eight elections held last week, and the prospect of the Liberals are by no means flattering in England. That name is not popular either in England or America.

☞ Governor ALLEN declares that he was not born in Virginia, but in South Carolina; and the Governor should be a tolerably good witness upon that question.

☞ ELLIOTT, the colored member of Congress from South Carolina, is now mentioned in connection with the Governorship of that State. His Civil Rights speech has made him very popular at home, as well as elsewhere.

The newspapers, in noticing the death of Dr. Livingstone, generally omit to mention one great work of the Doctor's life—the making of Stanley.—*Chicago Post.*

This omission is attributable to the fact that only the good works of the dead are remembered.

☞ Congress is yet very much "at sea" on financial questions. If they don't afford the people reliable and permanent relief, they will think themselves swallowed up in a sea, when overwhelmed by the righteous indignation of the people.

☞ Illinois gives all children, regardless of color, equal privileges in her schools. The Democrats wanted separate schools for colored children, but the Legislature refused to be unjust to the colored man.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

W. A. W., Du Page, Ill.—The "Bazar Book of Decorum," published by Harper & Brothers, N. Y., price $1, is a good work on Etiquette. It is a very common custom now for a gentleman to offer a lady his left arm. In cities it is found more convenient to give the lady the outside of the sidewalk. Your writing is not good enough for a book keeper, but it is your own fault if you do not improve.

W. M. T. would like the address of Charles Pugh, late of Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

A. B. K., Carlisle, N. Y.—Send for J. B. Lippincott's, (Philadelphia, Pa.,) catalogue, and see if you will not find, under the head of "History of England," the book you want.

W. M. L., Poultney, Vt.—We know nothing about the party, but is it good common sense to suppose any one is going to give away something for nothing? Either the party does not intend to fill the bill, or else the things he gives are very dear even at the price he offers; in other words, are probably worthless.

S. J. M. A., Edgewood, Ill.—The book in list No 1, is Sir Walter Scott's complete Novels.—In answer to other questions, we should not care to make such an arrangement now, but may by and by.

NEBRASKA.—The government has *not* "offered a reward for the invention of perpetual motion," nor do we think it ever will. The thing is an absolute impossibility, and only dreamers bother their heads about it.

H. C. S.—Wants to know how to make an alum basket. Will some of our readers send us directions?

F. J. ARNOLD, Basil, Ohio.—We have many such stories about the same parties as yours. We know nothing about them; but the old adage, "no smoke without fire," leads us to think there may be something wrong there.

STUDENT, Iron Mountain, Texas.—We never saw the book, "Family Physician," and cannot say as to its merits. The following are standard works: Lavater's Physiognomy, $1.25; Combe's "Lectures on Phrenology," $1.50; Mark Hopkins' "Moral Science," $1.50; Noah Porter, "The Human Intellect," $5. You can get these through American News Company, New York City.

J. A. T., Topeka, Kansas.—It will depend entirely upon what shape your claim against parties in North Carolina is in as to whether it can be collected or not. Unless it has been looked after since 1854, it is now probably outlawed by the statute of limitations. You had better consult a lawyer. It depends altogether on the natural abilities of the "person" as to how long it will take him to go through a law school. If we knew what your means were we might be able to advise you about a school, but as you say nothing about your affairs, we do not know whether to recommend Yale or some other college to you.

A COMRADE, Moscow, O., would like to know where he can get a complete history of Anderson and Florence prisons. If any of our subscribers know of such a work, will they please give us the name of the author or publisher?

R. M. GIBBONS, Camba, O.—See answer to P. J. W.

CHARLIE AND I.—We believe "Nurse and Spy" is the only book Miss Edmunds ever wrote.

OLD YORK, Lancaster, Penn.—President Grant's Cabinet is as follows: Hamilton Fish, Secretary State; W. A. Richardson, Secretary Treasury; W. W. Belknap, Secretary War; G. M. Robeson, Secretary Navy; J. A. J. Cresswell, Postmaster-General, and G. H. Williams, Attorney-General. Your questions about Lakes and Canals are too lengthy for these columns.

S. C. H. Willey, Christian Co., Illinois.—We have lost your letter. If the question was an important one, please renew it and we will attend to it.

CLIPPER asks: "Why was our time not reckoned from the birth of Christ instead of the first day of January?" We think "Clipper" ought to be able to answer this question for himself. Your hand writing is fair.

WILL. H McF., Conover, O.—1. A Sabbath day's journey is 1,155 yards, which is a trifle less than two-thirds of a mile. 2. "If you put a pig in a pen, and then build another pen around it, is the pig in the large pen also?" Of course he is. 3. "Do we think the Grangers will be a permanent organization?" We think it will live until the existing abuses are corrected, and see no reason why it should not continue to exist.

J. P. J., Ferrara, Perry Co., Ohio.—We know nothing about the concern you enquire for.

J P. L., Eskridge, Kan.—See answer to Rev. H. D.

A. V. V., Attica, N. Y.—We are heartily glad if we can help you in any way to a pleasant home in the West. We especially want to assist poor men who are looking for homes, and we hope they will not hesitate to ask us any questions that will help them. We hope to give, every week, letters from the Western States and Territories, that will describe the society and progress of the various localities, and enable our readers to post themselves without having to go to the expense of visiting the settlements. The colony you enquire about, so far as our knowledge goes, is doing very well. Address a letter to the Postmaster of Worthington, Minn., and he will answer your questions.

A. H. R., Toledo, O.—You will have to take out papers before you can vote. You must have a little patience about the chromo. Often times papers who give chromos for premiums are several months behind, and to our mind you will not lose much if you never get it. There is a good bit of humbugging about some of this chromo business. Your writing is not very good.

W. W. E., St. George, Kansas.—We do not think the woman could claim a pension. If both sons had died she could; or if the one who died had been her only support.

X. Y. Z., Canton, Ill.—Ask your Congressman to send you a copy of the report of the Navy Department. You will find the information you ask for in that.

H. W., Pennville, Ind.—The first Grange was organized in Pennsylvania in 1868. Jeff. Davis and Andy Johnson are *not* members of the order to the best of our knowledge. The society is not "in the interest of the Democratic party," nor any other political party. The Grangers did *not* turn Ohio over to the Democrats, but "Back-pay Congressmen" *did*. We do not know whether Gov. Allen is a Granger or not, but he is a farmer and an honest man and probably can join them if he desires.

AUG. VAN DERVEER, Eatontown, N. J.—Would like to correspond with some friends in Kansas. He wants a tract of land of 640 acres, well timbered and watered. Will some of our readers please correspond with him if they know of anything that they think would suit him.

F. S. C., Pleasant Unity, Penn.—You are wrong. The tax for each would be only on his work, not on the value of the whole. Thanks, for your efforts in our behalf.

MRS. M. A. C., Council Bluffs, Iowa.—A good magazine for younger children is *The Nursery*, published monthly at 36 Bromfield street, Boston, Mass. We gave a list of weekly papers for children in our last issue.

JAMES BAUM, Lawrence Co., Ill.—This correspondent writes asking the cost of inserting certain advertising matter in the BLADE, and neglects to give any postoffice. As the post mark on the outside is blurred, which is very frequently the case, we can make no reply. Mr. Baum will oblige us by sending his full address.

ROB ROY.—We have no more knowledge of what laws Congress will pass this winter than you have—if the doctors cannot help your ague we certainly cannot. If we had your proper address, however, we would send you the name of a preparation that we have found reliable, but we can give no such names in in these columns. Mr. Locke is about 38 years old.

"ALDINE."—This word is pronounced as if spelled "Al-deen."

W. H. C., Oakland City, Ind.—For "The Boy Whaler" address Lee & Shepard, Boston, Mass. For "Beulah," write to G. W. Carleton & Co., New York City.

ROBERT WILSON, (no address.)—Write to Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York City, they may know all about it.

SCHOOL SUTTER.—In the BLADE of January 23d there was an inquiry as to the meaning of this term. Since then we have received from A. Bartenshaw, Hope Furnace, Ohio, a very full account of the use of the term. We wish we had room to publish his article in full. We can only condense it, however. He says the term has been in use for thirty years in North, eastern Kentucky, lower Ohio, and Western Virginia. When and how the term originated, or what it means, he says, he doubts if any one can tell. It is used as a word of reproach or a slur. Any boy, when passing a school, if he wants a chase, has only to call out 'school butter," and all the scholars will feel compelled to "go for" him, and if they catch him it is generally understood he is to have a ducking, or something else equally as bad.

A. B., Hope Furnace, Ohio.—Some of the parties you enquire for are known to us, and some are not. Those whom we do know we could not say whether reliable or not. It is a very delicate place to put us. We do not like to say a word against a man's responsibility, fearing we may do him an injustice; we cannot, on the other hand, in justice to our subscribers, recommend men whom we are not entirely sure of. Write to the P. M. where the men are

A. X. T.—Says his discharge papers read that he was born in Pittsburg Co., Pa., in place of Allegheny Co., and asks if it would make any difference should they ever be examined. We think not.—"How long before subscription expires will I renew so as to lose no number of BLADE or *Harper's*?" At least two weeks, but it is safer to give us a month's time.—"What kind of a place is Toledo for a plasterer or stucco workman?" If you have good work where you are, we would not advise you to move to any strange place. For definite information as to this city, address a line, enclosing stamp, to J. E. Morehouse, Architect, Toledo, Ohio. We do not know the standing of the Chicago parties you enquire for.

E. P., Cedarville, Smith Co., Kansas.—See answer to REV. H. D.

E. S. D., Metamora, Ohio.—Your first question is too vague. We can't make out what it is. Your second. "If a lady has refused to go with a gentleman, but is always friendly, and uses him as she does other gentlemen, would it be improper for him to ask her the third or fourth time?" No, certainly not "improper," but most people would understand by her "three or four refusals" that she did not wish to accompany them, and would not ask her again. 3. "Can an infidel give testimony in courts of justice?" In most of the States we think he can; in some States he could not.

P. M.—"What could military land warrants be bought for in Ohio?" We know of none being sold, nor of any that are for sale. "Which is proper, 'the Misses Smith,' or 'the Miss Smiths?'" We prefer 'the Misses Smith.'

MISS ANNIE L. LAMONT, East Troy, Penn., would be obliged to any of our readers who will give her directions for making an alum basket having large crystals.

P. J. W., Wilmore, Penn.—Write to Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York City, enclosing stamp. They can put you on the track of the book if any one can.

EDWARD, Farmington, Fulton Co.,—We think it is "polite to touch one's hat upon meeting a lady on an unfrequented country road."—We like the custom much better than the cold English way of never noticing anyone until you are introduced. It is true "that business men generally prefer an experienced bookkeeper to a graduate of a business college."—In answer to your third question, we think they may do so in some few instances, but in most cases they do not.

W. H. G., Ontario, Ohio, sends us a question Jan. 10th and says he wants to use the answer in less than a week from that date. We want to say to him and to all others, that if their questions are to be answered in a week or ten days, they had better not send them to us.—We take each enquiry in its turn, and have always a large number from one week to another. Under ordinary circumstances, it may be a month from the date the question is received before it will appear in the BLADE.

W. D. A., South Danville, N. Y.—You will find *The Poultry World*, Hartford, Conn., a good journal.

C. B. C., Riggston, Ill.—The *Popular Science Monthly* is published by D. Appleton & Co., New York City, and is edited by Prof. E. L. Youmans.

C. D. R., Nashville, Ohio.—In the book reviews in the BLADE Jan. 15th, you will see two books noticed that might be just what you want. They are published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. Write to them for prices &c. They will probably make a discount for a number.

H. M. West Mitchell, Iowa.—The information spoken of was published in the BLADE in the shape of a letter from there.

G. D., Clark's Hill, Ind.—We think the trade of pattern maker is an excellent one: good pay and pretty steady work. A good workman would perhaps have a better chance in the West among the manufacturing cities than in the East, where workmen are more plenty.

W. B., Ambia, Ind.—One who can write as good a hand as you, ought to have regard enough for others to write plain. We presume the paper is reliable enough, but we would not give 25 cents for the chromo.

MECHANIC'S WIFE.—Wants to know "which is the proper way, when a friend is spending the night with you, for the friend to express a desire to retire, or for you to ask the friend if he wishes to retire?" It is customary to say to your guest "that his room is ready whenever he desires to retire," and then let him choose his own time.

G. M. S., Princeton, Ky.—The colleges in Keokuk and Dubuque we know nothing about; the Oberlin College we think is all right.

A. P., Pioneer.—We have no recollection of having published any such article.

MAJ. R. M. D., Schell City Mo.—The charters of the roads you mention have not been forfeited that we are aware of. We do not know on what day of the week the 4th of July, 1814, came on, can any one of our readers inform him?

LEIGHTON, Colbert Co., Ala.—We have no confidence in firms who make the professions these do when you enquire for.

GEO. SCOTT, Delmar, Iowa.—The information was published in the BLADE three or four weeks ago.

J. W. J., Onondaga, Mich.—We can find no such paper in our directory as the *Mechanic and Builders' Weekly*. There is a monthly published in Chicago called the *American Builder*, and in New York called the *Manufacturer and Builder*.

READER, Williamstown, Ks.—We do not know of any paper being published at Salt Lake City which is exclusively devoted to mining interests. The Salt Lake *Tribune* is a daily published there.

HATTIE E. North Manchester, Ind.—We hardly think Hattie is in earnest when she says she thinks the sentence, "I should like to have seen," is more correct than "I should like to have seen." No, no, Hattie, we are sure you are trying to quiz us.

T. N. B., Westbrook, Minn.—We never heard of any such paper, and never had any arrangements with them.

WM. F., Hastings, Mich.—Your question has been answered every week for the last four weeks. Where are your eyes, man? We believe the College to be all right. But we do not know anything about the wages new operators receive.

KITTY CLOVER, Oregon.—See answer to E. W. H., N. Y., in last week's issue.

T. H. L., Morristown, Ohio.—A "complete course of Physics" would include chemistry, natural philosophy, botany, natural history, geology, astronomy, and the science of heat, light and electricity.

C. ARNOLD, Kingston Springs, Tenn.—Nasby's last book was published by I. N. Richardson & Co., Boston, Mass. It is called "Struggles of Petroleum V. Nasby."—We cannot furnish back numbers of the BLADE, for 1873.

D. D. PERRY, Ill., asks: "What is romantic about a spot called "Hawk's Nest," on the New River Bridge on the Chesapeake & Ohio R. R.?" As we have never seen it we cannot say, but presume the situation, foliage and water is its attraction. Captain Hall was *not* poisoned.

C. M. G., Clinton, Wis.—The best work that we know of for your purpose is *The Popular Science Monthly*, published by D. Appleton & Co., New York, at $5 per annum.

FISLAY McW., St. Argo, N. Y.—We suggest that if it is worth writing us at all, it is worth the trouble of writing so we can read your letters. Our advice is to let the "Institute" alone, and consult a good Doctor whom you know and have confidence in.

H. W. B., Scott, N. Y.—You can get Taylor's "Old Time Pictures" by sending $1.50 to S. C. Griggs & Co., Chicago, Ills.

X., Coessa, Ind.—There are several papers calling themselves "humorous," but to our mind they are not at all "funny." The several attempts to establish comic journals that did not cater to the lowest tastes have never been successful. The *Index* is no longer published in Toledo, but in Boston.

W. W. W., Springfield, Mass.—Our columns of "Answers" are for the benefit of our subscribers. If you were a subscriber you would have seen answers to your question in the BLADE not many weeks ago.

J. W. L., Atlantic, Iowa.—In some cities the detectives are promoted from patrolmen, in others they are not. Their wages are according to their ability. Apply to the Chief of Police. We have never heard that Arkansas was unhealthy.

L. T. Blank, Mt. Vernon, Iowa.—The Mississippi Senators are J. L. Alcorn and A. Ames. The Representatives are Albert R. Howe, H. W. Barry, Jason Niles, G. C. McKee, J. R. Lynch and L. Q. C. Lamar. All but the last are Republicans.

C. H. B., Spring Hill, Pa.—We published some letters in the BLADE a few weeks ago from Nebraska that answer your question about the Republican Fork. We should decide in favor of the Railroad, or near the Railroad. We think there is still good land on the Union Pacific Railroad not taken up. Don't believe all railroad land circulars tell you. Send for *Scribner's Monthly* for February, and you will see a long article in it about Texas. We will not say anything in favor of one State or Territory over another. You might do as well in Kentucky as farther West, and then again you might not. We think you will find it hard to get employment, at this time of year, in either of the places named. Read the letters in the BLADE and decide on a place for yourself.

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, '74.

The speech of Mr. Morton in reply to Mr. Carpenter, on Louisiana affairs, was sharp, earnest and practical, and seemed to make a deep impression on the Senate. Whatever irregularities may have existed in the election, they could not, he believed, be so injurious to the people of that State as the opening of the contest again, at this late day, and inviting a repetition of the disgraceful struggle. He said that nobody wanted a new election but Warmouth and McEnery and a few disappionted politicians. The Republican party did not want it, the best class of Democrats did not want it, the negroes did not want it, the business men did not want it, and the interests of the people universally called for steadiness and quiet.

He referred to Warmouth and McEnery as watching the movements of Mr. Carpenter from the floor of the Senate, and denounced them as men covered over with blood. The men who were moving for this election were the assassins of 1866, and '68, and '73. More than 2000 men, (mostly colored) were killed in the sixty days preceding the Presidential election. He had the evidence to show that John McEnery was the organizer of the murderous mob in New Orleans, and that the massacre at Colfax was of his instigation. The life of a colored man in Louisiana was of no more account than that of a dog, and a new election meant more blood.

Mr. Carpenter did not present his bill for a new election on Friday, but it is to get before the Senate to-day, and the indications are that the debate on it will be an excited one.

The bill for the trial of Gen. Howard, by a military commission to be appointed by the President, was passed in the House with a clause in it, giving the General the right of challenge, as in court martial. Mr. Wood was afforded an opportunity to make his usual bitter and insulting speech on the occasion, but it was offset by the touching, eloquent, and appreciative speech of Mr. Woodford, also of New York. The old negro-haters hate Gen. Howard "with a perfect hatred." It would seem as if his eminent services during the war had entitled him not to be taunted and condemned before being tried, but Mr. Wood said that he was interposing every possible obstacle to the investigation, and that, when the matter was before the House on a former occasion, witnesses were induced to absent themselves by threats and intimidations, and the investigation was a mere farce. Mr. Woodford reminded him that the prosecution, in that case, had consumed 60 days, and that the defense only occupied three days, and was so complete as to exonerate the accused, and show that the charges were utterly baseless.

The educational convention which has been in session in this city is regarded as a very important meeting. It was composed of professors and superintendents, and continued in session two days. The principal feature of the convention was the address of President White, of Cornell University, bearing on the relations of the general government to education, and the address of Mr. Philbrick, Superintendent of the Public Schools, of Boston, bringing into comparison the systems and success of the methods of education in Europe and America. Mr. Philbrick had qualified himself for this work by a thorough examination of the educational systems abroad, as well as by a long experience at home; and it was a new thing to Americans to be told that the schools of Vienna and some other parts of Europe were greatly superior to anything in this country. A large edition of the addresses is to be published.

The funeral of Mrs. General Walbridge took place at her late residence in Mt. Pleasant, and was largely attended by persons of distinction, mostly from this city. Her elegant Italian villa is in a beautiful grove of oaks, between two and three miles from the city, and has been, for many years, a place of generous hospitality. Among the pall-bearers were Gen. Sherman, Secretary Delano, Gen. Ewing, S. B. Brown, &c., &c. The body was taken to Glenwood Cemetery, where it reposes by the side of her late distinguished husband.

Gov. Shepherd had a famous mask party at his house at the close of last week, which was attended generally by the notables associated with the Government and others. A Senator present, who was puzzled to know who was who, fixed his attention on Gen. Sherman, who was got up for the occasion "regardless of expense," and after studying him for a long time without being able to make out who he was or what character he represented, at last addressed himself to another party and asked if he could enlighten him. "That man," said the respondent, "must be either the Devil or Tecumseh Sherman." Thereupon the querist responded, "exactly! I see now, he is both."

The equestrian statue of Gen. Scott, by Browne, of Newburg, has just been put on its pedestal in a circular park of Massachusetts avenue, and is a decided improvement on the rude efforts of Clark Mills. The horse is not taken in his antics, but is apparently on a quiet jog, while the rider is evidently trying to do his best to look like a renowned general. The artist has evidently discovered that there is character in repose as well as in action. I understand that in all the United States there are only about half a dozen of these equestrian statues, and this is the third one in Washington.

The Governor (Shepherd) entertained the educational convention on Friday, and President White made a little speech complimentary to Washington. He said that "as a citizen of the United States he had an interest in the capital of the nation; and he felt like saying to the Governor and his associates: Go on! and make the capital worthy of the greatness of the nation! Go on, and we will stand by you and say: God speed you in your work."

Secretary Delano, who is understood to have taken a deep interest in the appointment of Mr. Waite, is very confident that he is the right man in the right place, and predicts for him, if he lives, a judicial fame not surpassed by any of his predecessors.

Senator Morton is to resume his speech on Louisiana affairs, and although it is cold and the snow is sifting down amain, he will have galleries well filled to hear him.

BUCKEYE.

LETTER FROM KANSAS.

Coffee County—Profits of Sheep Raising.

DIXON, Coffee Co., Kan., Jan. 16, 1874.

EDITOR BLADE:—I am not in the habit of writing for the papers, but I cannot refrain from saying a few words in favor of this beautiful country. Our land is a rich, black alluvial soil, somewhat rolling, but not enough so to make it difficult to travel over. It is just rolling enough to make it one of the most beautiful countries that man could wish to live in. Coal and timber are plentiful enough for all practical purposes, and the soil produces abundant crops, if well cultivated; and for raising stock it can't be excelled—by any country in the same latitude, as the climate is dry, with sufficient rain and good running water for stock in all seasons of the year.

Tame grass, clover, timothy, blue grass, and white clover, all grow well when sown; and all the prairie hay that a man may wish can be had just by cutting and stacking. This hay is fed to stock of all kinds daring winter, and they will come out in good condition in spring. It should be cut in July and August and fed plentifully.

There is no better business any where than sheep raising here, and the sheep prosper finely on this hay. Except on corn-fodder, I never saw sheep do as well as they will on the prairie grass. I have had forty years' experience with sheep, and I consider this country and climate the best of any west of the Ohio river. I have lived in Central Ohio, Illinois and Michigan, and this country surpasses all of them.

My standing flock is from 800 to 5,000 Merinos. My flock last year averaged 6½ lbs. per head, which brought 32 cents per lb. at the nearest depot. The proceeds of 800 sheep last year, in wool and increase, was $2,900, and the flock is as good as it was a year ago.

Horses and cattle generally pay well, too. The winter has been very mild so far, but our winters usually are not very cold, and the air is dry.

This is much longer than I intended, but may be of interest to some of your readers.

DAVID STOOLFIRE.

REMARKS:—We wish our correspondent had gone on, and written twice as much. We are much interested in his letter, and are sure our readers will be. Let us hear from you again, Mr. S., and do not limit yourself to so short a letter. —ED.

Bridging the Detroit River.

From the New York Tribune.

The Secretary of War has recently transmitted to the House of Representatives a valuable report by a Board of Engineer Officers, upon the scheme for building a railway bridge across the Detroit River, between Detroit and Windsor. The Michigan Central road and the Great Western Railway of Canada, which connect at this point by means of a ferry, desired to bridge the strait in order to avoid the great delay to which they are subjected in Winter by floating ice. How serious this obstruction sometimes becomes is illustrated by a table of the trips of their ferry steamer in January, 1873, when the crossing, which in Summer takes about 17 minutes, consumed on one occasion nearly five hours, and on 35 occasions more than two hours. "Often," says the President of the Michigan Central road, "as many as from 700 to 1,000 cars were waiting in our yards to be moved across." The construction of a tunnel was begun by the railroads in the winter of 1872, but it was abandoned the following year, not on account of any serious engineering difficulty, but because of "the cost. "We now believe," said the chairman of the Great Western Railway at a meeting of the stockholders in April, 1873, "that by making the proper application we shall be able to get the bridge over that river by a smaller expense than the tunnel, and get it more expeditiously done." At the same time the Canada Southern Railroad wishes to build a bridge at Stony Island 15 miles below Detroit, where, by bridging, embankment and piers, it has already taken possession of half the water-way "without authority of the United States."

The Board of Engineers, consisting of Generals Warren, Comstock and Weitzel, Col. Merrill, and Capt. Livermore, met at Detroit and gave a patient hearing to all the parties in interest, besides making a minute inquiry into the traffic both by rail and by water which would be affected by the proposed bridges. It appears that during the eight months of navigation 27,000 vessels pass through this channel, and of this number more than 20,000 have masts. The amount of freight carried by them is 9,000,000 tons. It is difficult to estimate the business of the Canada Southern Road, for it has only recently been opened. The Great Western Railway transferred at Detroit, during the year ending April 15, 1873 838,310 tons, or less than one-tenth of the amount which passed the same point by the water route. But as it is only in the winter that the railway needs a bridge, the ferriage and handling during two-thirds of the year costing no more than the maintenance of a bridge, interest on the capital, &c., would cost, it follows that the disproportion between the conflicting parties is still greater than it appears at first. In short, as the report says, "9,000,000 tons of freight is asked to yield its interests for the benefit of one-thirtieth of that amount." Three kinds of bridges were proposed and carefully considered. 1. A bridge giving a clear headway of 150 feet, and clear spans of 400 feet. This would cost about $9,000,000, and would involve long and difficult approaches, with steep grades, as the banks of the river are not more than 30 feet high. It would not be a serious obstruction to navigation, though the Board regards it as much too expensive to build and to operate. 2. A bridge with two pivot draws. This is the plan advocated by the railway companies, and the cost is fixed at about $2,500,000. The Board is emphatic in the condemnation of any such structure at any point on the river, and shows that the damage and detention to vessels would be enormous. 3. A bridge continuous during winter, but so constructed that two portions, each 400 feet long, can be floated away on pontoon piers during the season of navigation.—This would cost about $2,000,000, but as the plan would involve the continuance of the ferry system eight months in the year, it would be too expensive in operation, besides interfering more or less with navigation. On the whole, the Board reports that the only unobjectionable method of crossing the river is by tunnel, and thinks that a "tunnel at Detroit or Stony Island, is by no means impracticable, at a cost not so great as to debar its construction."

The country will receive this sensible and able report with entire satisfaction. East and west are equally interested not only in keeping the existing routes of water communication unimpaired, but in enlarging them to their utmost capacity. All the vast lake traffic between Chicago and Buffalo must pass through the narrow channel which connects Lake Huron with Lake Erie, and the freedom of this route is the only thing which keeps the freight charges of the railroads within any bounds at all. What influence the water route has upon the railway tolls is shown by the fact that in 1861 the rates by the Blue Line, which were 22½ cents in summer from Chicago to Buffalo, rose to 35 cents as soon as navigation closed. It is not enough, however, that the water route should have a sufficient capacity for all the freight that offers. It is cheap not merely because the actual cost of carriage is so small, but because there is practically no limit to competition, and consequently no possibility of combination to up prices. As soon, however, as you restrict the capacity of any part of the route, by narrowing or otherwise obstructing the channel, and rates rise at once. Congress annually appropriates over a million of dollars for the improvement of this water route, and has applied half a million to the construction of an artificial channel through the Saint Clair Flats alone. The proposal of the railway companies to throw artificial obstructions in the passage which the Government is taking such pains to enlarge must not be entertained for a moment.

Connecticut Democratic Convention.

The Democratic State Convention was held at New Haven on the 3d, David Clark, Liberal Republican, of Hartford, presiding, and renominated unanimously the entire State ticket of last election, Governor Ingersoll at its head. Governor Ingersoll was informed of the nomination.

The platform adopted declares a devotion to the Constitution, and affirms that the people of the several States have the sole right of governing themselves, subject only to the limitations of the Constitution; denounces corruption and extravagance in high official places; favors retrenchment and reform in the National and State governments; condemns the salary grabbers, ring politicians and land monopolists; denounces in the strongest terms the present Federal administration, and the procuring of money from the notoriously corrupt ring of Washington politicians for the purpose of controlling elections in the State of Connecticut; charges the panic and its results to the policy pursued by the Government; demands a speedy return to specie payments; opposes unjust and unequal taxation; condemns land grants and monopolies; favors legislation beneficial to the industrial classes, imposing such restraints upon grasping corporations and stock gamblers as will prevent the financial fluctuations which always result in a debased currency, defalcations, and starving workingmen and women; favors the bring of the question of calling a Constitutional Convention directly before the people; and finally, expresses a sympathy for all people struggling for freedom, and calls upon the General Government to extend to them the support consistent with the laws of Nations, in accordance with the principles of our Republican Government. Adjourned.

The Grangers.

The 7th annual session of the National Granges of the Patrons of Husbandry convened at the Southern Hotel, St. Louis, on the 4th, thirty-five States and two territories being represented by masters of State Granges. About 30 ladies were present. The sessions are held with closed doors, and all that is known of the proceedings is the following brief report furnished by the Committee on Publication.

The following are the officers of the National Grange: Master—Dudley W. Adams, Iowa. Overseer—Thos. Taylor, South Carolina. Lecturer—J. A. Thompson, Minn. Steward—A. J. Vaughn, Miss. Assistant Steward—G. W. Thompson, N. J. Chaplain—A. B. Crist, Washington. Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, N. Y. Secretary—O. H. Kelly, Washington City. Gate Keeper—O. Dinwiddie, Ind. Ceres—Mrs. D. W. Adams, Iowa. Pomona—Mrs. H. Kelly, Washington City. Flora—Mrs. J. C. Abbott, Iowa. Lady Assistant Steward—Miss S. C. Hall, Washington City. Executive Committee—Wm. Saunders, Washington City; D. Wyatt, Ala.; S. C.; E. B. Shankland, Iowa.

Kansas Legislature.

Governor James M. Harvey has been elected United States Senator to succeed Caldwell. Governor Harvey is a Virginian by birth. He spent most of his life in Adams county, Ill., up to 1857, when he came to Kansas and engaged in farming. He entered the army when the rebellion broke out, and served as a Captain in 10th Kansas Infantry. After the war he was elected to the State Senate, and in 1869 was elected Governor of Kansas by the Republicans, and re-elected in 1870. He is a practical farmer, steadfast Republican, and an earnest friend to all genuine reform measures. His personal character is above reproach. No stain of corruption ever has been attached to him, and his election is regained as a triumph of honesty and fairness in Kansas politics. The final ballot on which Harvey was elected stood: Harvey, 75; Plumb, 20; Simons, 18; Storer, 8; Robinson, 4. Snoddy, Foster and Price, 2 each; and Davis, Valentine and Anthony, 1 each.

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NOW TAKE NOTICE.

We shall go back and count for all competitors for the three prizes, all the names each has sent us since November, 1873, so that all will get the benefit of what they have done.

AND FURTHER!

Three subscribers to the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL shall count as one to the WEEKLY BLADE, and two to LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY shall count as one to the same.

AND STILL FURTHER!

Agents competing for these prizes shall RECEIVE THEIR COMMISSIONS THE SAME AS BEFORE. Thus in any case, they get paid for their work.

AND YET AGAIN!

This offer applies to all who want books.

NOW GO TO WORK.

Is there not a church that wants this organ? We may possibly take a notion to distribute several of them. But this one (and it is a beauty) we shall give away anyhow. We will furnish specimens, &c., to all applicants, free.

LOCKE & JONES,

TOLEDO, OHIO.

NOW OR NEVER.

Those who contemplate winning any of the three capital prizes offered for the BLADE, must make the effort *now*, for it will soon be too late. Responses to our offer have been very large and very gratifying, but the lists have not been so large that a wide-awake, energetic canvasser could not yet make a radical change in the result. We ask no one to work for nothing, but pay every person soliciting for any of our publications a liberal commission. See list of premiums offered for subscribers to the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, (specimen copies of which are sent free to any address); also for LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY.

SPAIN.

As was anticipated, the affairs of Spain are daily growing more gloomy, since the advent to power of SERRANO. The Carlists, with reinforcements, are surrounding Bilbon, and threatening an early bombardment, while SERRANO is taking no steps to repel the attack, scarcely even acting upon the defensive, as though in league with the enemies of the Government. So many and so varied have been the changes of this political trickster that it is impossible to tell to which party he gives adherence, and perfectly safe to assume that the strongest will command his services, while its strength lasts, which may be the secret of his present attitude towards the Carlists.

☞ Secretary DELANO expresses great confidence in Chief Justice WAITE, regarding him as the right man for the position, and predicts for him a fame surpassed by none of his predecessors.

☞ Out in Iowa they have bread and milk parties, and the young folks sing, "Crumb, oh crumb with me."

THE WEEK

Perhaps the most significant action by Congress during the past week, has been the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the affairs of the District of Columbia, where it is alleged gross irregularities exist. The Senators appointed on the committee, or at least two of them, have asked to be excused from serving.—A new bill amendatory of the present postal law, has been reported in the House. Its provisions in regard to papers circulating in the counties where published, to newspaper exchanges, etc., are substantially those of the old law, and these will doubtless be accompanied by a partial restoration of the Franking privilege to members of Congress.—The Senate during the past week has been engaged principally in the consideration of Louisiana affairs, and amendments to the pending bankrupt bill. We refer the reader to the the Congressional Summary in another column, for farther details.

The employes of the New York, Chicago & Midland, and the New York, Oswego & Midland railroads, have been engaged in a strike for back pay. In one or two instances they have torn up the road and made other riotous demonstrations.—Ex-Sheriff BRENNAN and his Deputy, SHIELDS, left the Ludlow street jail in New York on Saturday, their term of imprisonment having expired.—EDWARD K. WINSHIP, one of the absconding defaulters of New York, has returned to that city, and, it is stated, will be allowed to settle up his affairs so far as he is able.—It is reported that EDWIN BOOTH, the well known actor, has filed a petition in bankruptcy in New York.

The Annual Convention of the National Reform Association was held in Pittsburg, Pa., on the 4th and 5th inst. The reports indicate an unusually large attendance and a great degree of interest, while the sessions of the body are compared to those of the recent Evangelical Alliance. The petition to Congress asking the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution acknowledging the existence of God, has already received 56,000 names.—The National Grange of the order of Patrons of Husbandry has been in session during the past week at St. Louis. The principal business of the Convention has been the revision of the ritual, and other matters not made public. A synopsis of such business as was made known by the Secretary, is given elsewhere. The next annual meeting will be held at Charleston, S. C.—The women of Ohio, during the the past two weeks, have been engaged in a vigorous campaign against the liquor sellers in the central and southwestern parts of the State; in many towns the greater part of the saloons have been closed. The movement has created a decided excitement.

According to the latest dispatches from the parliamentary elections in England, 509 Members of Parliament have been returned, of whom 267 are Conservative and 242 Liberals. The Conservatives replace 71 Liberals, and the latter have ousted 27 Conservatives.

In Germany, the trouble between the Government and Ultramontanists is in no degree allayed, and reports of government action in a still more decided direction for the assertion of its authority, have deepened the excitement. It is thought in well-informed circles that Prince BISMARCK, although desirous of avoiding war, if possible, would be rejoiced at a plausible opportunity to crush out completely the Ultramontane party. The Catholics on the other hand appear to have gained strength in the recent elections, having now thirty-five seats more than before. It is stated that the Spanish Government has provisionally recalled her representatives from Berlin, Vienna and several other capitals.—In Cuba, Captain General JOUVELLAR has issued a lengthy proclamation in accordance with the recent extraordinary powers granted to him. The Spaniards profess to have great faith in the efficacy of this proclamations to crush the existing rebellion.—The famine in India is increasing, and late reports state that fully 150,000 natives are suffering from the privations caused by insufficient food.—Affairs in France are quiet, the attention of the people being largely turned to the present excited situation of affairs in Germany.—Our correspondence from various sources, as well as the departments devoted to special matter, will be found full and interesting.

AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL.

The February number of the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL has just been issued, and though several days late, owing to unavoidable detentions occasioned by the recent removal of the BLADE establishment, is nevertheless of a character that will fully compensate for the delay. The FARM JOURNAL fills a field which is peculiarly its own, and if what its readers say be true, fills it to the general satisfaction of all. It is emphatically a *home paper*, and should be in the hands of every farmer's wife in the land. The JOURNAL is sent at rates which places it within the reach of all, and combined with our other publications, is a marvel of cheapness. Specimen copies sent to any address free of charge, by the publishers, LOCKE & JONES, Toledo, Ohio.

INCENDIARISM IN CANADA.

Although Canada has had no financial panic, no commercial crisis, and her monetary matters are as unchangeable and fixed as the ancient laws of the Medes and Persians, which changed not, the winter has been an unusually dull and severe one among the laboring classes of the land which the Spaniards so appropriately named 'Land of Nothing.' Last week, at Hamilton, attempts were made to fire all the churches of the city simultaneously, although happily they proved abortive, and although the would-be incendiaries are supposed to belong to the Communist organization, want and suffering and the hope of obtaining work and a livelihood by the speedy rebuilding of the churches were in reality the chief motives which prompted the conception and commission of these deeds of crime, evincing that metal currency and contraction are no more national blessings in Canada than elsewhere.

SUGGESTIONS TO THE PATRONS

For the first time in this country, and, we might say, for the first time in any country, the farmers have the advantage which a well-devised, compact and vigorous organization can give. Capitalists, manufacturers, tradesmen and artists have, in their respective departments, to a greater or less extent, enjoyed this advantage, while the industry, which is the base of all others, occupying the energies of four-fifths of all the workers of the human race, in its nature the most essential of all occupations, has had no common understanding among those devoted to it, and no concert of action with those dependent upon it. The Farmer's Grange movement, compacted by means of a slow and healthy growth, is now of giant proportions and controlling power.

We need not say that however imposing such a movement may appear its success ultimately must depend on its members moving on harmoniously and vigorously, towards definite and well understood aims. And here it is proper to say that no mere negative policy, no mere crusade against oppressive monopolies, can long keep such a body in life and influence. There must be a positive policy built up and sustained, as well as a reform of crying evils to be effected. In this direction chiefly we wish our suggestions to tend.

The farmers of the United States should urge forward, by every practicable means, the enlargement and improvement of our water communications, both natural and artificial. This is the easiest and most direct form of relief that can be obtained from the exactions of Railroad combinations. For heavy freights water carriage must always have the advantage of railways. Along the water courses of the country, the railways, at least during the entire season of navigation, are compelled to be reasonable in their charges. No event, save the railways getting absolute control of canals, can take away this advantage from the public. For the carrying of the grain of the West, and other produce, eastward, and for the carrying of fuel, lumber, iron, salt and other heavy commodities to points of consumption, the water-ways can offer a competition which will take off the great burden of the complaint which led to the organization of the Granges.

We are just now reaping a crop from the foolish sowing which took place years ago. On the extension of our vast railway system through the States, we became impatient of the taxation necessary to support out canals, and of the slowness of the motion of water craft. Even steam on water was considered too far behind the age. We are wiser now. The cost of handling freights on and off cars, the cost of railway management and construction, and the utter impossibility of maintaining a healthy competition for any great length of time between rival railway lines, have taught us the worth of our old-fashioned water channels. Our Canadian neighbors have been wiser than we, in this respect. Let us then insist upon a proper liberality in the widening and deepening of our canals, and the improvement of our navigable streams, and the construction of ship canals, connecting the great rivers of the West with the lakes and canals of the East. Let the farmers but join with the commercial men in the country in this demand and the work must soon be done.

Another point of chief importance is for farmers to encourage the building up manufactures in their immediate neighborhoods. Much property is wasted in carrying goods from producers to consumers. We have had a mania for carrying goods immense distances to find purchasers and consumers. Common sense would seem to suggest that we try the plan of taking the people, as much as we may, to the place of production. In other words, let us bring the farm, the store, and the workshop into closer proximity. Let us have a more rational diversification of our industries. Any other plan of society will continue to grind the producing and consuming interests by the expenses of transportation, and the commissions and profits of middle men.

To accomplish this farmers must do something with their accumulations of capital, besides buying all the lands adjacent to them, or investing in town lots, shaving paper, or buying bonds. Better than any of these, in its ultimate results and profits, will be prudent investments in manufactures. Why can not the millions of pairs of shoes worn by the people of the West be made in Western instead of Eastern towns? Why may not leather be tanned as cheaply and as well in Indiana or Illinois, as it is in Pennsylvania or New England? Why should the shoe-maker of Massachusetts transport his flour from Wisconsin or Minnesota, or the farmer of one of those States his shoes from the sea shore? This looks like a needless waste. It consumes like the fire, the flood or the earthquake, yielding neither compensation nor consolation in return.

These are some of the practical methods by which farmers may reach the ends they seek. Growling at the monopolies, when we cannot bite, will do little good. The policy we propose, however, will put the people beyond the power of their extortions. They will be at the mercy of the people, and not the people at theirs.

All these things, and many more, can be done now by the Farmers, for in their Granges they are united. They may now take action as a class. They can act as a whole. If the Farmers in any one county in Illinois, say, deem it to their interest to establish a cotton mill, or a shoe factory at their county seat, or any other point, they are in condition to do it. They see each other as often as they meet, and for just such purposes do they meet.

By all means, let this great movement result in something practical. Let the Granges demand of their Legislatures the improvement and strengthening of the Canals of the country, and let them, by every possible method, not only establish new manufacturing enterprises, but let them strengthen and develop into greater usefulness such as are already established. Let them remember that every man employed in manufacturing makes by whatever he consumes, a so much better home market—that every mechanic employed reduces the acreage of grains that have to be moved—that in short, by diversifying industry everybody is benefitted. This, it seems to us, is the real work of the Grangers.

We again invite our friends in the Granges to aid us in this work. Our columns are open for all.

WOMAN'S PRAYERS.

A familiar passage of Scripture assures us that the "effectual" or energetic "prayer of the righteous *man* availeth much," but in our day the prayers of the determined and indignant *woman* seem to be most effective, so far, at least, as the nurseries of drunkenness are concerned. The woman's praying movement for the abatement of the evil of intemperance in the leading towns of Southern Ohio is spreading with unprecedented activity, and, so far from decreasing in power, is sweeping on with increased momentum. On yesterday, at Ripley, in Brown county, through storm and slush, the temperance women carried on their bombardment of the saloons, compelling several of the most recolute of them to yield to their demand. In other places the same method of warfare is going on, and in others it is contemplated.

Of course, the peculiar methods of these temperance reformers are and will be severely criticised by both foes and friends of the temperance cause. Those who have no sympathy with the raid on the saloons will see in this movement nothing but unwarranted aggression on the rights of others. And many who have no friendliness to the traffic in intoxicating liquors, will feel reluctant to sanction a method of aggression so unusual and irregular. The opponents of vice are usually inclined to the most peaceful and orderly methods of advancing their views and operations.

But once in a while in human history movements at first no larger than a human hand, when first observed, increase in volume and intensity until communities are pervaded and controlled by them. They may be deemed fanatical, unwise, mischievous, irregular, and all that, but still they move on, compelling respect and crushing opposition, at least for the time being. Such phenomena usually arise from latent yet deep-seated moral convictions in men's minds, or else out of some crying necessity in human society. Social evils, long endured by patient and long suffering victims, at length provoke a remedy. That remedy may come in a very unlooked for and undesirable way, but its coming is only a question of time; hardly one of choice.

It must be remembered that women are the chief sufferers from intemperance. In more homes than any statistician has yet counted the money which ought to feed and clothe the wives and children therein goes into the till of the grogshop, and out of the starvation and rags of many a laborer's and mechanic's household the vender of liquors grows rich. With this state of things, of course, the winning party is satisfied. But who can wonder if the hollow-eyed women, while looking upon the gaunt faces of their ill-clad children, should at length find voice in protest and in prayer? It may be said that their prayers should be uttered only in secret, and that it is a scandal for their voices to be heard on the street. That is, however, a nice question of taste and propriety, and when strong and vehement feelings are once aroused, questions of that class sink into a secondary place, and are but little regarded.

The effect of this praying movement is already visible in the Democratic Legislature at Columbus. It is a noticeable fact that this praying crusade is most prevalent in the strongly Democratic counties. Whatever the representatives of these counties may think of the movement they are conscious that their political necks are in peril if they interfere with the efficiency of existing laws for the suppression of the evils of the whiskey traffic. This outbreak of temperance feeling may restrain the contemplated raid on the temperance statutes.

We do not wish here to treat of the propriety or impropriety of the course adopted by these parties. It matters little what we, or the secular press generally, may think about it, the movement has passed, for the time, beyond such restraint as the press might be disposed to interpose. It is a fact of importance and power in certain localities. We treat it as a fact which comes not without an adequate cause, and which must be dealt with, whether we like its presence or not. Vice is never modest in its approaches, nor moderate in its exactions, and it is not to be wondered at if, occasionally, it arouses an unlooked for reaction against itself.

JOHN DUNCAN'S WIDOW.

MR. LOCKE'S latest story now running in the NATIONAL MONTHLY, has brought him thousands of new readers and made the magazine thousands of new friends which it will be loth to lose. We may remind casual readers of the Weekly that we are able to supply a few more orders for this interesting story and the three numbers of the Magazine containing it, which will be sent to any address on receipt of twenty-five cents.

☞ The English papers express some concern about the advance which Germans are making toward a control of British commerce. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says that from the number of German firms doing business in foreign countries, the trade of which England heretofore had a monopoly of, and the number of German clerks in the employ of English firms, it infers the supremacy of English commerce is seriously threatened.

☞ LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY at one dollar per year (or ten cents for single copies) leads the van of cheap and popular magazines. Try it and you will find that it contains more reading matter for the money than any magazine published.

A WIDOW'S REGRET.

When the Bishop of Oxford and his friends applied to Queen Anne for a charter for the first life insurance society established in England, they declared their object to be "whereby we may provide for our wives in an easy and beneficial manner." That was in the year 1806; and from that time to the present, life insurance has, without cessation, bestowed its benefits upon women. For them nearly every life insurance policy has been written. To them the life insurance companies of the United States pay nearly twenty millions every year.

Yet, strange to say, nearly all the prejudice which is found existing against life insurance is the prejudice of women. Some of them tell us that the act of insurance is an effort on the part of their husbands to counteract the decrees of Providence! Yet those women who think they have a warrant for their prejudice in the decrees of Providence, will have to acknowledge that the good which has resulted from life insurance would never have been permitted had it been in opposition to the Providential will.

It is a strange fact that this prejudice sometimes exists in the minds of intelligent women. They thoughtlessly carry on a war against the insurance system. They dislike to have anybody think of the future in connection with life insurance policy; their sensitiveness revolts against the foresight of the husband who desires to be insured that the wife may never be poor.

Life insurance agents often encounter this prejudice, which, in some cases, seems to amount to a superstition. Below is an interesting letter which one sends to us on this subject:

DEAR SIR:—A few days since, while returning from church with my wife, we met a young widow, who is a family friend of long standing, and naturally conversed with her in regard to her recent affliction. She said to my wife, "Oh, Mrs. Clark, I see what a fool I was when my husband came home one evening and told me that he thought of procuring an insurance on his life, for five thousand dollars, for my benefit; that the physician had examined him, and that the policy would be made in a day or two! I was inexperienced then, and imagined he was going to die, and that he was aware of it, or why should he insure his life? My anxiety and nervous excitement increased to such an extent, that he finally said, that since it worried me so much, he would not be insured. Not long after this, on one of his business trips to the West, he took a severe cold, which resulted in his death. He had carefully saved one thousand dollars, to be invested in a little homestead, but it was nearly all spent during his sickness, leaving barely enough for the funeral expenses; and here I am now, thrown back on my father's hands, with my child, and without a dollar! My father has been unfortunate in business, and cannot afford to have us here. If I had the amount of that life insurance, which I should have if I had not been so foolish, I and my child would have been comfortably provided for.

This is but one of a thousand similar cases, which I have met with. I have frequently found in my experience as an agent of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, that a wife will not permit her husband to be insured, even when he has nothing laid up for the future. I can recall two instances at least, during the last year, in which gentlemen said to me they desired an insurance, that they appreciated the value and necessity of it, but they were dissuaded from carrying out their intentions, by the persistent objections of their wives. With one of these wives I had a frank conversation on the subject, and after answering her objections in detail, I was met at last by this declaration: "Well, I shall die before my husband, and so what is the use of it!" I know a young woman whose husband died suddenly, who was saved from absolute want, by his wise forethought in securing a life insurance on his life for five thousand dollars. With this money she went into the country and established herself comfortably, with her child, and has ever since blessed the day when a provision was made by life insurance for her relief. Wives ought to look to this subject in a practical, business-like manner, and should encourage their husbands to go at once and get their lives insured.

RICHARD P. CLARK.

No. 123 Broadway, New York.

To this we may add, that our State laws favor life insurances made for the benefit of woman; they provide that an insurance which has been made by a husband payable to a wife, becomes the wife's property and cannot be taken by her husband's creditors. So that she, at least, is provided for in the time of misfortune.

THE ENGLISH ELECTIONS.

The fortunes of DISRAELI are again in the ascendant, if the recent elections in England are a criterion for judging. So far as reported they are decidedly unfavorable to GLADSTONE, whose resignation to the Queen has been already reported, though no official notice has yet been received of it. The London *Telegraph* says the opinion of the country has been pronounced, and it is certainly adverse to Mr. GLADSTONE, and he will doubtless comply with its decision, as he is bound to do, and follow the Constitutional precedents of PEEL, MELBOURNE and other Premiers under similar circumstances, and resign it at once. The field has been lost, and most decidedly so, through the division of the Liberal party on side issues, and the reported violent language of the workingmen's candidates, and the want of tact and sympathy shown by several members of the Administration. The sufferings of the British masses have been so great from their masters and the ruling powers, and their educational resources so limited, that violent harangues and speeches from their leaders are not to be wondered at, and are but natural. Nevertheless their intemperance has aroused the fears of the property-owners, who have thrown their influence into the conservative ranks. The result of the late election will probably again make DISRAELI the next Premier, as the election returns are so nearly in, that his chances are established almost beyond a doubt.

☞ SEND FOR A specimen copy of our AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, which will be mailed you free, on application to LOCKE & JONES, Toledo, Ohio.

☞ There are still occasional evidences that "Southern chivalry" has not entirely disappeared. That was a striking illustration of the fact at Nashville, the other day, when two young bloods simultaneously asked a young lady to dance. She accepted one, and of course declined the other, whereupon the rejected suitor drew his revolver and shot the accepted one dead upon the spot.

☞ THE BEST PAPER for the money is the WEEKLY BLADE, the *Farmer's Family Paper.* Specimen copies free to any address.

NEW BOOKS.

The works of Albert Barnes need no commendation from our pen; they are in the hands of Bible students throughout the country. We simply wish to call the attention of our readers to a new volume which is just out; "Notes, on the epistles of Paul to the Ephesians, Phillippians and Colossians."—a revised edition. (Harper & Bros., New York;

Trollope has disappointed us. His last work, "Harry Heathcote, of Gangoil," is somewhat of a humbug. It starts out vigorously, has a few chapters that are as good as any he ever wrote, and then down comes the axe and the story is chopped off. The epitaph over the child would be very appropriate—

What was I begun for,
To be so soon done for?

He may have had some plot in his mind when he began the story, but as it now is, there is neither plot nor point to it. The price is only 25 cents, but it is just twenty-four cents more than it is worth, and we are surprised that the Harpers should publish it. (Harper & Brothers, New York; T. J. Brown,

In "The Dead Alive," Wilkie Collins gives us an American story, for which we undoubtedly ought to be pleased, but we cannot say that the story is one that will add to his reputation, or one that will please the reader. If it is not an old story now brought forward again, then it is one that has been written hastily, in order that the publishers could take advantage of the advertising his presence here gives it. In either case, it is not worthy of Mr. Collins' talents. (Shepard & Gill, Boston.

"In the Days of My Youth," by Amelia B. Edwards, we have a sketchy sort of a story; one that is not very good, nor yet at all bad. The hero is sent from England to Paris to study in the hospitals, and the story is made up of his adventures there. Of course a vein of love's romance runs through it, but the book is really made up of several stories. Two or three of the shorter stories are very good. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.

"The Moonstone," by Wilkie Collins, Harper's library edition, recalls our sensations when we first read the work. It is by no means Collins' best, nor the equal of "Armadale," or "The Woman in White," but it is none the less a highly exciting story, and one that is well worth reading. We have commended this edition of his works before. (Harper & Brothers, New York.

"School Composition," by Prof. William Swinton, is a little work which cannot be too highly praised. The book is a manual for schools, but it will be very valuable to those who wish to improve their own composition. The student is shown how to use words, to form sentences, and is not only pointed out how to do it, but is also warned what to avoid. We are free to say we know of nothing which covers the whole so simply and completely as this little book of Professor Swinton's. (Harper & Brothers, New York;

A pleasant story to beguile away an hour is, "A Very Young Couple," by the author of "Mrs. Jerningham's Journal." It is the history of how two young people, who knew nothing about keeping house, managed to live on one hundred and seventy pounds a year. Of course, one cannot help thinking of David Copperfield and Dora, while reading the story, but after all there are many pleasant pictures in it, and laughable descriptions over their perplexities while house-keeping. Here is one where they are planning:

"Now, for instance," said Fred, thoughtfully, "how would you make *custard*?"

"Custard?" cried I. "Well, I'm not quite sure about *custard*. I can't remember ever hearing much about *that*. I rather think you buy it—in shops, you know—and somehow melt it down."

"Oh! ah!" said my husband, apparently satisfied; "and how about eggs, Georgy. For instance, now, how would you poach an egg?"

"Oh, well," said I, "nothing can be easier than *that*. To boil eggs you do it in their shells, all round; but, to poach them, you must take them out of their shells, and flatten them well before you boil them. One can tell *that* without being taught."

"Oh, is that the way?" said Fred, dryly. "I'm very glad to know. And how would you make soup, Georgy?"

"I'd pour water over the meat, of course, and let it stand till it's made, and then pour it off again, and shake it up well. Did you really not know *that*, you silly fellow?"

As we said above, it is a pleasant little volume to while away an hour. (Scribner, Armstrong & Co., New York.

"The New Chemistry," one of the International Scientific Series, is made up of thirteen lectures delivered before the Lowell Institute, Boston, by Josiah P. Cooke, Jr., Professor of Chemistry in Harvard University. The reputation of the author is sufficient guarantee that whatever he says will be well said and valuable, but the question that came up in our minds as we opened the book was, whether he had written these lectures out so that one who was not familiar with chemistry could understand and enjoy them. After a careful reading, we are forced to say that we fear they are above the capacity of such a reader. But to him who has already laid the foundation of this science in his mind, these lectures will be very interesting and simple. We do not remember to have seen the law of Molecules so clearly and entertainingly presented before, and the same might be said of the chapter on "Chemical Composition." We think Prof. Cooke makes a mistake in giving weights according to the French system, in place of our own familiar nomenclature. The book is profusely illustrated and is a credit to the publishers. (D. Appleton & Co., New York.

In "The Story of the Earth and Man," Dr. Dawson gives us a history of the world and of animal creation. Don't start, reader; it is not in a thousand volumes, and it does not treat of wars or rumors of wars. It is the Geologist's story as he has gathered it from rocks and fossils; it is the true sermon which leads us, step by step, from Nature up to Nature's God. Speaking of his work he says, "Results only can be given, not the processes by which they have been obtained." He sets it down that "The time which elapsed from the first formation of a solid earth to the modern period must have been from seventy to one hundred millions of years, and the whole time from the vaporous condition of the solar system to the present, must of course have been still greater than even this enormous series of ages." The oldest rocks in the world, he says, stretch along the north side of the St. Lawrence River, from Labrador to Lake Superior and then northwardly. The work follows the world from the time it became visible above the waters, through successive changes, giving the first stage before traces of any form of life can be found, the next step wherein we find the Trilobites: then to the formation where vertebrates and land plants appear, and again to another where fishes and insects are found. The age following that is shown to be the time when our coal beds were formed, reptiles appeared on the land, and sharks in the seas. Another age in reverses and then we have early mammals and birds, great sea lizards, snapping turtles six feet in length, and the formation of our great chalk beds. The next age shows traces of gigantic animals and birds; of animals which were as much larger than the elephant of to-day as the elephant is larger than an ox; of tortoises which were eighteen feet long, and of whales which were seventy feet in length. The next age introduces nut-bearing trees, maples, cypress, elm, sweet gum, and pine trees similar to the great trees of California. In this age Greenland was a fair and verdant land, and Dr. Dawson says this age was, on the whole, a better age of the world than that to which we live. Had men existed in those days they should have been, in order to suit the conditions surrounding them, a race of giants. This time was also what is known as the glacial period. The next age introduces the system of man, and this begins what is called the modern period. We have already occupied more space than we ought, but we pity the reader who does not find an interest in this subject, and we recommend the book as being exhaustive, and written by a man who agrees with the great teachings of the Bible. (Harper & Brothers, New York.

Our readers may have read some of the novels written by William Black, as his pen has been quite prolific during the last few years, but we confess to have no recollection of any of his works except "In Silk Attire," which did not strike us as being in some especially meritorious. It was with no expectation of finding anything more than the commonplace English story that we opened his last novel, "The Princess of Thule," but we had not read twenty pages before we were forced to admit that the work was anything but commonplace, and now, after finishing it, we are prepared to say it is an unusually well drawn and interesting story. The scene is laid among the highlands of Scotland, and the heroine is Sheila, the daughter of the "King of Borva." Borva is an island, of which Mackenzie is the owner and "King." To this island comes two Londoners, one a middle-aged serious man—Ingram—and the other an enthusiastic young painter—Lavender. Lavender is charmed with the simple grace and beauty of Sheila and falls in love with and marries her. Mackenzie tries all persuasions to keep Lavender and his daughter near him but they go to London. Here the story becomes the old one: the Scotch accent and thought so fascinating among her own people now jars upon him when among its fashionable friends; little by little, he goes out more without her and is disposed to be angry because she cannot make herself a Londoner in a day. The "Princess" has the Scotch pride, and one day, when he has spoken harshly to her, she leaves him. He realizes when she has gone how much he loves her and determines to make himself worthy of her, and in the end they come together united. We have given but a skeleton of the plot, but the characters are well drawn, the conversations well managed and the scenery described with a bold, vigorous hand. Sheila is a charming woman and her father a very interesting old man. The book is not perfect by any means, but it is the best novel we have had in some time, and we commend it heartily to our readers. (Harper & Brothers, New York.

"The Portrait; a Romance of the Cuyahoga Valley," is from the pen of A. G. Riddle, of Cleveland, Ohio, the author of "Bart Ridgeley," etc. Like the author's first book it is a story of the Northern Ohio life of years ago, and comprises graphic sketches of the life of that day and country, with well drawn portraits of many persons of local note, while a well conceived and carefully depicted plot runs through the whole book. An excellent feature of the volume is that much that is worthy of preservation in the historical line is interwoven throughout its pages among other chapters which give the early history of Mormonism. The author has skillfully interwoven his recollections of the noted Joshua Giddings, and these elements of the book will give "Burt Ridgley," a value far more permanent than that attained by any mere work of fiction. The Hon. Mr. Riddle though by profession a lawyer, has made in his two books a valuable contribution to American literature. (Cobb, Andrews & Co., Cleveland; Nichols & Hall, Boston.)

THE CHOCTAW LEGISLATURE.

The Choctaw Legislature has done itself little credit at its recent session. We should say that the Indian, in his best estate, is not fit for self-government, only that we remember that Democratic Legislatures, even in Ohio, about a score of years ago, enacted some such legislation as the Choctaws have just perpetrated. We have outlived the folly and wicked fanaticism of the Ohio fogies, and it is possible that in time the Choctaws may pass under the dominion of a better policy. The fogies of the Choctaw Nation still insist on maintaining their tribal condition, refusing to establish homesteads for families, or otherwise to advance in the direction of a higher civilization. The better class of Indians deplore this action of the majority, but the idle, roaming, lazy, shiftless class, are in the ascendant in the Legislature, as they give more attention to politics than the better disposed and more industrious. We hope that Congress will heed the wishes of the temperate, industrious and progressive portion of the Choctaws, and provide them with a Territorial government, a representation by Delegate in Congress, and with Courts of justice organized with intelligent officers, to maintain justice and order.

☞ We call the attention of those interested in Life Insurance (and who are not?) to the statement of the Mutual Life of New York. This is, we believe, the largest company in the United States. It has nearly 80,000 policy-holders, and a reserve fund enormous in magnitude, for their protection. The Mutual is honestly and carefully managed, and its policies are as good as gold.

☞ The Reming on Sewing Machine Company, Ilion, N. Y., want agents in every county in the United States. We can say from our own knowledge that the Remington machine is, like everything else manufactured by the company, first-class, and that the company is composed of liberal, generous men, with whom it is a pleasure to be associated. Write to Remington Sewing Machine Company, Ilion, N. Y.

Treating the Wrong Disease.

Many times women call upon their family physicians, one with dyspepsia, another with palpitation, another with trouble of the breast, another with pain here and there, and in this way they all present alike to themselves and their easy-going and indifferent doctors, separate and distinct diseases, for which he prescribes his pills and potions, assuming them to be such, when, in reality, they are symptoms caused by some uterine disorder; and while they are thus only able perhaps to palliate for a time, they are ignorant of the cause, and encourage their practice until large bills are made, when the suffering patients are no better in the end, but probably worse for the delay, treatment, and other complications made, and which a proper medicine directed to the cause, would have entirely removed, thereby insuring health and comfort instead of prolonged misery.

From Miss LORINDA E. ST. CLAIR, Shade, Athens county, Ohio, Oct. 15th, 1872:

"Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.:—Your Favorite Prescription is working almost like a miracle on me. I am better already than I have been for two years."

From ELLA A. SHAEFFER, Zanesville, Ind., Aug. 8, 1873:

"Dr. Pierce—I received the medicine you sent me, and began using it immediately. As a result of the treatment, I feel better than I have for years."

From Mrs. JOHN K. HAMILIN, Odell, Ill., March 9, 1872:

"Dr. Pierce—the Favorite Prescription has done me good, which I am very thankful for.

Many a downcast and whose life was made burdens me by the Metal Spring Trusses, has been restored to life's enjoyment by the use of the New Elastic Truss, which is worn night and day, retaining the rupture safely at all times, and is no taken off till a permanent cure is effected. It is at a reasonable price. The N. Y. Truss is sent by mail everywhere by the Elastic Truss Co., No. 683 Broadway N. Y. City, who send their full descriptive Circulars free on application.

Th[illegible]ers.

Mr. Nasby, Gardener [illegible] the Speedy Dissolution [illegible] the Republican Party, Assists at a Joint Convention—The Result.

CONFEDRIT X ROADS,
(Wich is in the State of Kentucky,
Feb. 10, 1874.

I hev bin anxahusly scannin the politikle horizon thro the telescope uv hope, to diskiver in the sky the bow uv success. I thot that at last my faithful search hed bin rewarded. My rainbow wuz reflected onto the clouds uv the immijit fucher by the corrupshens uv the leaders uv the Republikin party, and the consekent dissatisfackshun uv the rank and file uv that organizashun. Good we only yoose this ez a wedge to get that cussed party to split, and good we hook one fackshun onto our party, then we shood hev a clean majority, and I wooden't giv ten cents to be fashioned the Post Offis at the Corners, wich is the Alpha and Omega uv my hopes.

I heerd uv one town in Ohio in wich the Republikins hed trouble on ther hands, and, ez an experiment, I determined to go there, and see, for myself, whether or no a coalishen good be made between the Democrisy and the anti-corrupshen Republikins. I argood that if it cood be done in one town it cood be done in a thousand, for human nacher is the same everywhere.

I broached the idea to Deekin Pogram, (at whose house I hev bin visitin for three years) and to Bascom, who immejitly figgered what the railroad fare wood be, and they unanimously consented to advance it, of I wood agree to stay away two weeks. These men are gittin to be disgustiuly calkelatin.

But I went, and found at New Babylon the yoosual state uv affairs.

There wuz there a dozen Dimokrats who never drank nothin, and who follered legitimit biznis Then there wuz the great mass uv the party made up the doggry keepers, the doggry-haunters—that vast mass to whom clean shirts is only seen on twict in their lives, viz:—when they are married and when they are buried. The Dimocrisy wuz in a minority uv perhaps fifty.

Two years ago the Republikins in Noo Babylon hed electid two rather scaly fellows with whom they hed hed trouble. The auditor and treasurer hed bin diskivered at connivin with contractors, and the village hed, between em all, bin swindled out uv about $400. Ez the Republikins hed bin cussin the Credit Mobilier and Back Pay in Congress up-hill and down-dale, uv course, to be consistent, they hed to denounce corrupshen at home with ekal vigger.

Becoz uv the misconduct uv these offishels, a large number uv the Republikins swore that the Republikin party hed outlived its day, and that the time hed come to bust it and make a new organizashun, and they called upon wat they wus pleased to call the decent Dimocrisy to unite with em.

Thompson, Brown, Jones and Smith, the decent Democrats uv the village, agreed with em, and a People's Convenshun wuz called to nominate a ticket on the basis uv reform, wich wuz to be supported by the opponents uv corrupshen, irrespective uv party.

It wuz that convenshun that I went to New Babylon to attend.

The hall wuz crowdid. Immejitly Bill Rag, wich kept the largest rum-mill in the village, sprung to his feet and moved that Lawyer Swipes, his cheefest customer, be made chairman, wich wuz carried. Then Johnny Tag, wich keeps another doggery, moved that Saml Bobtale, his principal customer, be Secretary, and that the Convenshun perceed immejitly to nominate a ticket to be supported by all the citizens uv New Babylon who wuz opposed to corrupshen in the present Administrashen, in village, State and the General Government, wich moshen wuz carried.

The Reform Republicans tried to git Squire Broadacres on the ticket for Mayor, but it woodent work. Rag and Tag hed emptied their groseries into that convenshun, and they wuz voted down ten to one. Lawyer Swipes wuz nominated with a whoop. Then Sam Bobtale wuz nominated for Treasurer, and Rag hisself for Recorder, and five uv the same stripe uv men for Aldermen.

"Good Heving!" exclaimed the Reform Republikins, "this alst wat we expected! We can't stand this—yoo can't expect us to."

"My deer sirs," replied Thompson, one uv the decent Dimocrats, "it is unfortunate, I confess, but yoo see these men control the majority of uv our vote, and we reely can't help ourselves."

"But ef yoo are reely for Reform, why don't yoo leave a organizashen wich is controlled by sich men? Smikey, the Republican defaulter, is bad enuff, but ez compared with Bobtale, he's an angel uv lite. We didn't leave the Republikin organizashen, ez bad ez it is, to git into a wuss one. We want to git out uv the hands uv the Smikeys, but we don't want to drop into the keepin uv Rag, Tag and Bobtale. That ain't wat we bargained for. Ef the decent Democrisy can't control that organizashen, wat kin be done?"

"I reely don't know. Smith, Jones, Brown and myself moan over the power wielded by these men, but we can't help it. Ef we split with them, I may lose the nomineshen for Congress next fall, and Jones may not go the Legislacher. We can't break our party lines—we can't indeed."

"It's about the same in Nashnel matters aint it?" queried the unreasonable Republikin, who wuznt satisfied with the kind uv Reform he wuz gettin. "Spozin we leave the Republikin party and jine the Democrisy? Do we leave Credit Mobilier only to take Tammany to our buzums? Do we emancipate ourselves from Back Pay to git into the keepin uv John Morrisey? Do we merely exchange a corrupt Republikin for Fernando Wood? Ef you are compelled to to trot in harnis with Rag, Tag and Bobtail, here, on wat principle are yoo to git shet uv Wood and Morrisey, and Tweed, and them men, in Nashnel Convenshuns? Horasho Seymour and sich Dimocrats are powerful without em, aint they, jist ez yoo are powerful without Rag Tag and Bobtail?"

"It is unfortunately troo."

"And we dissatisfied Republikins are expected to vote with yoo, and elect this ticket?"

"Certinly, and thereby yoo enter yoor protest agin the corrupshen uv Smikey. A protest, my deer sir, is a great thing."

"I see. We enter a protest agin Smikey, by electin Bobtale, who wuz nominated by Rag and Tag. Excuse me The frying-pan is hot enuff—we wont jump into the fire, ef yoo please. I ruther think our best plan is to bust Smikey, rather than take on Swipes, Rag, Tag and Bobtale, and then hev to bust them. And I ruther guess that the same policy will do for things outside of New Babylon. I wood like to go somewhere, but you dont show me any good place to go to. We kin purify our own party, but I shoodent like to undertake the job for yours. I guess I'll make my fight a lee is closer to home. Good-bye.

And this headstrong man and his friends left the hall, with their noses in the air, and all we cood do wooden't pacify em. They went and called a Republikin Convenshun, and they slaughtered Smikey, and put up Broadacres, and a lot uv sich Republikins for all the offises, and they will elect em. Smikey, uv course, came straight to us, but a dozen Dimocrats left us the minit he jined so we lost by the operashun.

It wood be a nice thing for us ef the Swipeses, and Rags, and Tags, and Bobtales that belong to us cood be kept out uv site, but that cant be. Unless they hev their share uv plunder they won't vote with us, and ef they do vote with us, they keep out everybody else. The men who is nessary to us, beats us.

I am at home, sick and disgustid. This game uv Reform won't work, for we ain't jest got the proper material to put forrerd. Why, at New Babylon whenever I preeched the nessessity uv Reform, the people jeered at the idee. My personal appearance, it seems, wuz sumwhat inconsistent with that noshen. But it may come at last.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY.
(Wich wuz Postmaster.)

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, February 4, 1873.

The BLADE of Saturday, coming from the press room of the new BLADE building, very naturally casts a look backward over the forty years of history which it hoped to make and a part of which it was. I notice that you have remembered your correspondent and united his name with the "rise and progress" of this great Western institution. But it did not need so kind and generous a notice to send back my thoughts over the departed years to the time, in June, 1856, when, on coming down to Toledo from Adrian, where I had been to visit a friend, I stopped at the BLADE office to spend an hour or two in looking over the exchanges and seeing what the great world had been about since I had left my home, a week or more before.

Very much to my surprise, one of the employes of the office stepped up to me and called me by name. It was Mr. Wales, who receives such honorable mention in your history. He had known me some years before as the editor of the Brooklyn *Eagle*, and the meeting in a place so entirely strange to me, gave me great pleasure, and for several days I came down every day from Adrian to Toledo with my friend, who was connected with the Railroad offices there and spent an hour in the BLADE counting room.

At one of these visits, I noticed a young man who had been writing at a table within sight, gather up his pen and paper, and pack them in his carpet-bag, as if about to leave. And, after a brief and business-like good-bye to some of the hands, actually took his departure. After he was gone, Mr. Wales came to me and said it was the editor, and that the paper was left without any editorial head, he (Wales) being engaged on the local and commercial department. He then asked me if I was so situated as to help them for a few days.

My paper at Syracuse (the *Daily Chronicle*) had just been burned down, and I was completely afloat, without money and without prospects, and I was therefore quite willing to fall in with his proposal, and so turned around to the desk and went to work. I did not know a soul in Toledo, had no letters of introduction, and no knowledge of the local wants or interests of the place. But the Fremont campaign was just then opening, and my heart and hand were with the Republican movement. On the next day, Mr. Thompson, who was then the publisher, came to me to engage my services for a year at $1 000 per annum, which of course I was glad to accept; and, a few days thereafter, I received a note from the late Jesup W. Scott, whom I had never seen, and whose position in society I did not know, which was a cordial to my soul and brought tears to my eyes. It was an anticipation of that kindness and consideration which I afterwards so abundantly received at the hands of the people of Toledo. About the same time Mr. Thompson suddenly departed, and Mr. Williams was called from Washington to see what was to be done.

When Mr. Williams came, he continued me in my position, but no regular payments were made to those employed in the office, and the general expectation was that the publication of the BLADE would be suspended. I cannot remember the exact time that Mr. Pelton came into the office as clerk; but it must have been before the close of the summer (1856). It was, at any rate, an era in the life of the BLADE; and from that time onward the hands were more promptly paid, and the course of the BLADE was steadily upward. He soon became a partner, and the final success of the BLADE was largely due to the promptness, industry and good order that, thereforward, prevailed in the counting room. May the BLADE long keep bright by constant use.

I think Mr. Morton's speech has "laid out" the project for a new election in Louisiana. His argument was clear, cogent, overwhelming. He showed that the grounds on which the President had recognized the Kellogg government were based on the soundest principles, and that no other position could have been safely taken. He did not contend that there was saintly purity on either side; but Federal interference had become necessary, and no other course could have been justified. Mr. Conkling came fairly to the side of the Senator from Indiana and read cases to show that the President was entirely right in responding to the call from Louisiana, and said that the argument of the Senator from Wisconsin was entirely fallacious. Mr. Frelinguysen also took the same ground. On motion of Mr. Edmunds the further consideration of the subject was postponed

The House resolution on the District government is satisfactory to the friends of the District. The debate was chiefly remarkable for the declaration of Mr. Eldridge (Dem.) who was on the former committee, and who declined to go on any new committee because he "did not believe a committee of angels from Heaven could satisfy the grumblers from this district." That's what's the matter! A committee to satisfy these people would have to come from exactly the other direction.

Congress made short work with the civil service rules in the case of the 1st Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The death of Gen. Sweet having made a vacancy, the examining Board were ordering things for filling the place when Congress, by a nice dodge, promoted the Second Deputy to the place under a pretence of abolishing the office. The office was abolished in this way:—It was discontinued and the duties devolved on the Second Deputy, who had his salary increased to the same figure. The object seems to have been to give the place to Mr Rogers, in spite of the Examining Board.

The impeachment resolutions in the case of Judge Busteed have been referred. You will notice that they do not look very much like carrying two-thirds of the Senate. Probably they will find rest in the bosom of the committee.

Nesbitt's movement for a revision of the tariff and its assessment on the basis of revenue, received 52 votes against 92.

The removal of the cake stands and merchandise tables from the halls of the Capitol does not command a majority, vote and still remain.

The public debt statement again shows a balance on the right side, but it is not expected that it can be steadily retained there. Both Houses will, however, be slow to add to the taxes, till they are satisfied it cannot be avoided. Just now economy is the watchword on every hand; but we shall probably see a change of opinion before the session comes to a close.

BUCKEYE.

THE U. S. CONSTITUTION.

The Movement in Favor of an Acknowledgment of the Deity.

The annual convention of the National Reform Association met in Pittsburg, at 2 o'clock on the 4th inst. An immense audience was present, embracing delegates from almost every State in the Union, and representatives of all Evangelical denominations.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. Felix R. Brunot, President, and Prof. J. R. W. Sloane, of the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary, Allegheny, was chosen President *pro tem.*

A Committee on Permanent Organization having been appointed, reported as follows:

President, F. R. Brunot; Vice Presidents, A. A. Hodge, Pittsburg; Rev. N. Johnson, Ind.; Rev. T. R. Crain, N. J.; Dr. J. B. Johnson, Ohio; Hon. T. H. B. Patterson, Pittsburg; Rev. Randall Ross, Missouri; Rev. M. Kuper, Pa.; Rev. R. B. Cameron, Wis.; Joseph Bowers, Fla.; Rev. D. R. Kerr, Pittsburg; Rev. Jonathan Edwards, Ill., and Rev. Dr. Bonner, N. Y.

Rev. J. P. Stephenson addressed the Convention on "The Ends We Seek." He maintained that the union of Church and State was not to be expected as the legitimate effect of the work of the Association; that the object was to get the State to acknowledge God for itself and not through the medium of any Church establishment. He contended that the accomplishment of the objects of the Association would not give any one sectarian body an advantage over another, but merely preserve and perpetuate our Christian institutions as they have come to us from our fathers. He said attacks were being made on the institutions by infidels, and that they were giving way before such attacks, and the only way to secure them was by the acknowledgement of God in the manner proposed by the Association.

Rev. D. M. McAllister, of New York, addressed the Convention on "The Testimonies to the Religious Defect of the Constitution." He cited passages from statements of the most eminent priests, legislators, professors of political economy and ministers, in testimony of the irreligious character of our national charter, and the damages to be feared therefrom.

Prof. David Kerr, of Pittsburgh, addressed the Convention on "The Responsibility of Nations to God." He did not see how any one who desired the reign of God in their hearts could object to Him reigning in the Nation. He combatted the idea that the nation was a mere aggregation of individuals, deriving all its powers from them, and said that it was an ordinance of God as much as the family or church.

Dr. Brown, of Newcastle, addressed the Convention on the relation of the proposed amendment to the suffrage of citizens who opposed it. He said that it was designed to deprive no man of his rights whatever—Jew, Unitarian or Infidel.

Prof. C. A. Blanchard, of Wheaton College, Illinois, addressed the Convention on "The Conflict of Law." He admitted that no matter how frequently God was acknowledged in the Constitution, it would no more make a nation religious than putting a pump in a well would increase the supply of water. What he wanted was to pump religion in our laws until they corresponded with the Christian sentiment of the people. He was of the opinion that while it was not intended to unite the Church and State, it would be better to have the ballot box in the Church than in the rum shop, or that some religious test should be demanded rather than to accept the thieves and drunkards that now make our laws.

On Thursday morning, the hall was filled to its utmost capacity. President George, of Ohio, addressed the Convention on the progress of the work in that State. He said that the movement was making a wide spread impression there.

Rev. Mr. Milligan, of New York, addressed the Convention on "The Conflict in the World between Light and Darkness," and urged that all the powers of darkness were arrayed against this movement.

The Committee on a Declaration of Principles and Resolution presented the following points: 1st The country, and institutions were founded by Christians, and should remain Christian. 2d. We should acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Ruler of Nations of the world, and God's moral law the Nation's guide. 3d. The Constitution fixes the moral status of the people, if the Constitution be Christian, the people will be Christian. 4th The objects of the Association are to perpetuate the Christian Sabbath, maintain the Bible in the Public schools, establish a proper reward for the sanctity of the marriage relation, and suppression of intemperance.

Dr. Bain, of Pittsburgh, spoke on the patriotic features of the movement. He said that if the laws of the country are of a higher service than Harrisburg or Washington, they were without any binding force upon the consciences of the people.

Dr. Kieffer spoke briefly of the possibility of preserving the civil liberty without a deviation from religious duties.

The question of the adoption of the declaration of principles and resolutions, was decided by a rising vote, every one in the audience rising up and answering in the affirmative.

The report of the Executive Committee showed that nearly $6,000 had been expended in the advertisement of the laws during the year.

On the reassembling of the Convention, the report of the Assistant Secretary was read. The report claimed the securing of the recognition of God in the new Constitution of Pennsylvania was due to the exertions of this association.

The petitions to Congress in behalf of the amendment were laid before the Convention, which summed up 56,000 names. These petitions are to be retained in the possession of the officers until the number of names secured reach 2,000 000 or 3,000 000.

The Enrolment Committee reported 1,000 delegates present, after which Professor A. A. Hodge, of Pittsburgh, delivered an address:—"Our Nation Historically, and of right a Christian Nation." He said this was in no sense an Ecclesiastical Convention, but a political one, assembled to demand that politics should be Christianized.

J. H. P. Paterson spoke on "The Relation of the Government and the Constitution to Christianity," Rev. S. F. Scoville, on "Independent Morals," and President George P. Hays, on "The Individual Corporate Existence of the State."

After the appointment of officers of the Association for the ensuing year, the Convention adjourned sine die.

The Convention, in respect to the immense audience that attended the sessions, was almost a duplicate of the Evangelical Alliance meeting in New York, and the addresses and intense interest manifested in the proceedings have created a profound impression on this city and vicinity.

The Choctaws.

The Choctaw council has just adjourned, after a session of nine weeks. The result of their deliberations may be summed up as follows: They passed resolutions protesting against a Territorial government and allotment of their lands, in severalty protesting against the Choctaw survey and allotment, and refused to entertain the proposition to accept the negroes residing among them. They appointed a Commission of three persons to go to Washington to effect a settlement of the boundary line between Arkansas and the Choctaw Nation, and to personally urge Congress not to pass a territorial bill. They repudiated the Cochrane contract, under which $75,000 have already been advanced.

This action does not reflect the sentiment of the intelligent portion of the Nation. A majority of the Legislature is composed of full blood Indians from the mountain districts, with the Governor at their head, who publicly stated that if he had his own way he would hang every white man in the Nation, and if he could separate the little white blood in himself, he would open his veins and let it out. The civilized Indians of the Territory do not want to be transferred to the War Department, but they do want a Territorial government, with courts or justice, and a Delegate in Congress to speak for them. They do not need Government agents, but they want citizenship and equal rights with all.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

The time of the Senate was occupied on the 2d inst., by Senator Morton, who made a long speech in a review of the argument of Senator Carpenter on the Louisiana question. The debate was further participated in by Senators Conkling, Frelinghuysen, Carpenter and Stewart.

The House on the 2d inst., passed a resolution providing for a special investigation into the affairs of the District of Columbia, for the purpose of inquiring whether unlawful contracts have been made for public improvements in the District; whether unlawful assessments of taxes have been levied; the actual cost of such improvements; the amount agreed to be paid therefor; whether correct measurements have been made; the existing indebtedness on account thereof, and what, if any, portion of such indebtedness was created on account of Government property, and may properly be paid for out of the United States. The suggestion of Mr. Kasson instructing the Committee to inquire whether any amendment of the organic act is necessary to protect further the rights of citizens and the disbursement and collection of money, was incorporated into the resolution, which was adopted. The Speaker appointed the following committee: Messrs. Wilson, (Ind.) Hale, (N. Y.) Hubbell (Mich.) Clymer, (Pa.) Jewell, (Ohio). Mr. Butler (Mass.) introduced a joint resolution providing that in all cases under the civil service examinations for Government positions when a disabled soldier, his wife, or the widow of a soldier who died of wounds or disability contracted in the service, shall pass examination at the required standard fixed by the rule, such person shall have the preference to appointment. Carried.

In the Senate on the 3d, Senator Sherman, from the Finance Committee, reported a bill amendatory to the act of 1870 in relation to the increase in circulation of National Bank notes. The bill will be found in full on another page. The Senate proceeded to the discussion of the amendments on the pending Bankrupt bill, after which it went into executive session, and subsequently adjourned.

The House on the 3d, after passing one or two local bills, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Kellogg in the chair, on the army appropriation bill. After a long debate, which took a very wide range, Mr. Garfield said that an amendment would be offered, restricting the army to 25,000 men, and he indicated as places from which troops could be removed the harbor of New York, where there are now 1,324 men, and the Canada border, where there 1,000 men, and not a British soldier in Halifax from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to Pembina. Mr. Wheeler moved to add to the bill, a proviso that no money appropriated by it shall be paid for recruiting the army beyond 25,000 enlisted men. Agreed to. Pending a resolution to seat Mr. Hodges, of Arkansas, the House adjourned.

The Senate was again engaged on the 4th, in discussing the pending amendments to the bankruptcy bill. The principal discussion was held regarding the amendment which protects the debtor from the operations of the act for forty days after his suspension.—Pending the discussion of Sherman's amendment to limit the operations of the law to an indebtedness of over $5,000 the Senate adjourned.

In the House on the same day, there was considerable personal sparring between Messrs. Holman and Hoar, while discussing the subject of land grants to Railroads. The House finally adopted an amendment providing that railroads having received a land grant from the U. S., shall not charge for the transportation of U. S. troops.

The Senate on the 5th passed the bill to protect the public works at the mouth of the Mississippi. Senator Sherman's amendment to the Bankrupt bill, limiting its operation to indebtedness above $3,000, was taken up and lost. He also moved to amend the clause of the Bankrupt law relating to the time for which a debtor might suspend payment, by making that time 90 days instead of 40. Pending the discussion, the Senate adjourned.

The House on the 5th took up and passed a bill to amend the act of March 3d, 1873, to encourage the growth of timber on the western prairies. The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Kellogg in the chair, on the army appropriation bill. After a good deal of discussion over the question of increasing or diminishing the work at the National armories, the committee rose without disposing of the bill, and the House took a recess until 7:30. The evening session was for the consideration of a bill to revise the statutes.

The Senate on the 6th resumed the consideration of the pending amendments to the bankrupt bill, several of which were passed. The committee's amendments as passed by the Senate, fixes the time at 40 days, within which any banker, broker, merchant, trader, manufacturer or miner, who has stopped or suspended, and not resumed payment of his commercial paper, shall not be deemed bankrupt; prescribes that fees, commissions, charges and allowances, excepting actual and necessary disbursements, to be made by the officers, agents, marshals, messengers, assignees and registers in cases of bankruptcy, shall be reduced to one-half the allowances heretofore allowed. The Justices of the Supreme Court, who are to make new rules and regulations in respect to the law, are empowered to consolidate the duties of register, assignee and marshal, and to reduce the cost of charges, to the end that promptly, delay and unnecessary expense be avoided. Senator Edmunds offered a new amendment, conferring jurisdiction in bankrupt cases on any Circuit or District Court of the United States, which was agreed to. He also offered as an amendment an additional section, requiring an itemized report to be made by all Marshals and Judges of the fees received by them, etc. Senator Thurman offered an amendment abolishing the office of Register in Bankruptcy. The Senate went into Executive session and adjourned.

The House on the same day devoted its attention to private bills principally, and adjourned till Saturday, when a session was held for debate only

English Emigrants.

The Richmond *Enquirer* is credibly advised that during the coming spring, there will be hundreds of families from Sussex Kent, Devonshire, and other localities in old England, emigrating to Virginia. The settlers are generally people of considerable means, who prefer buying lands of their own in Virginia, purchased at reasonable rates, and yielding good profits, to leasing lands in England at $25 per acre per annum. In the county of Augusta, a number of English families have found homes under the auspices of M. M. Bracken, Esq., and they have to pay $60 000 a piece of land. They are said to be amply prepared, and will doubtless be instrumental in bringing many others of their countrymen to Virginia.

RETURN OF THE EPIZOOTIC.—William Horne, a Veterinary Surgeon of Wisconsin, believes there is danger of a recurrence of the epizootic in a more violent form than that it assumed last year, and suggests the strictest sanitary measures—good food, cleanliness, a bountiful supply of pure air, care in working; above all, promptness in securing the best aid as soon as the disease shows itself.—*Ex change.*

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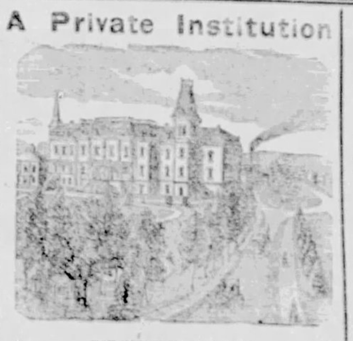

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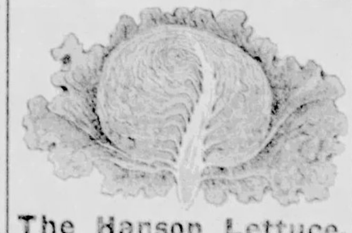

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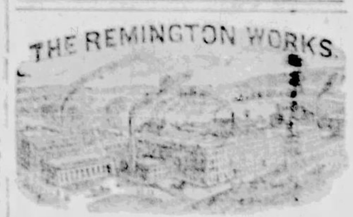

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ANNUITY ACCOUNT.

	No.	Ann. Pay'ts.		No.	Ann. Pay'ts.
In force, Jan. 1st, 1873	47	$1,528 10	In force, Jan. 1st, 1874	47	$39 00 00
Issued	10	9,698 90	Terminated	10	5,279 00
	57	$38,276 00		57	$38,279 00

INSURANCE ACCOUNT.

In force, Jan. 1st, 1873	78

Reading for Little Folks.

GROWING UP.

Oh to keep them still around us, baby darlings, fresh and pure,
Mother's smile their pleasures crowning, mother's kiss their sorrows cure;
Oh to keep the waxen toucher, sunny curls and radiant eyes,
Pattering feet and eager prattle—all young life's lost Paradise

One bright head above the other, tiny hands that clung and clasped;
Little forms that close enfolding, all of Love's best gifts were grasped;
Sporting in the summer sunshine, glancing on the winter hearth,
Bidding all the bright world echo with their fearless careless mirth,

Oh, to keep them; how they gladdened all the path from day to day,
What gay dreams we fashioned of them, as in rosy sleep they lay;
How each broken word was welcomed, how each struggling thought was hailed,
As each bark went floating seaward, love bedecked and fancy sailed!

Gliding from our jealous watching, gliding from our clinging hold,
Lo! the brave leaves bloom and burgeon; lo! the shy, sweet buds unfold;
Fast to lip and cheek and tresses steals the maid in's bashful joy;
Fast the frank bold man's assertion tone the accents of the boy.

Neither love nor longing keeps them; soon in other shape than ours,
Those young hands will seize their weapons, build their castles, plant their flowers;
Soon a fresher hope will brighten the dear eyes we trained to see;
Soon a closer love than ours in those waken ing hearts will be.

So it is, and well it is so; fast the river near the main,
Backward yearnings are but idle, dawning never glows again;
Slow and sure the distance deepens, slow and sure the links are rent;
Let us pluck our autumn roses, with their sober bloom content.

Nimpo's Trip on the Creek.

Nanny Cole lived at the edge of the village, and very near the woods. There was also a shallow creek close by, in which the children were allowed to play, for it was not considered deep enough to be dangerous. Nanny's house was a favorite place to visit, especially with such a girl as Nimpo, who never could get enough of the woods.

As she and Robbie approached the house, Nanny and her brother came out, and they all went to the woods. First they got their hands and arms full of wild flowers, pretty moss, acorns and pine cones; and when at last they could carry no more, they found a pretty place for a house.

It was against the roots of a large tree, which had blown down. The great bundle of roots, higher than their heads, and full of earth, stood up straight, and before it was the hole it had left. This droll house they adorned with their treasures, making a carpet of moss and boquets of the flowers, which they stuck into cracks in the great root.

When the house was finished they played awhile. Then finding a flat stone for a table, they spread it with cookies from a basket Mrs. Cole had given them.

They spent some time over this meal, eating from plates of clean birch bark, and drinking "white tea" out of dainty acorn cups.

Then John proposed they should go and play on the creek, and down they went. For some time they built dams where the water was very shallow. Then they sailed boats made of pieces of bark, loaded with small pebbles, which they called bags of wheat, or with passengers made of pieces of twigs, with acorn cups for hats. These boats all started off bravely, and sailed gaily down the creek for a few rods, but there the current took them towards a rock in the middle of the stream, and against that nearly every one of them was wrecked. If it passed it was sure to be capsized in a little eddy just beyond.

After enjoying this a long time, John proposed that they all should sail about on boards. Of course, Nimpo was ready for that, so they got a few boards, fastened them side by side as best they could, and took a long pole with which to push their rafts along. In this they went up and down the creek, and had fine times.

Robbie was not big enough to have a boat by himself, so he sailed with John for awhile. But at last John thought he would go down through the rapids, as they called a place where the creek spread out wide, and was filled with large stones.

Nimpo told Robbie to come to her boat, and she pushed her boards up towards John's, so that he could do it. Before she was quite ready Robbie jumped on, and coming so suddenly, upset the narrow raft and threw them both into the water.

It was not very dangerous, as I have said, for it was not deep, but it was very wet, and Nimpo fell her full length.

John and Nancy hurried to help her, and in a moment she stood on the bank, wet to the skin—and Robbie was in the same plight. They hurried up to the house. Mrs. Cole wanted Nimpo to put on some of Nanny's clothes, and hang her own up to dry, but Nimpo would not consent. She said she would stand by the kitchen fire and dry herself.

So by the fire she stood, one long hour that hot day, while Mrs. Cole took off Robbie's clothes and dried them. Even then she was not half dry, but she was tired and warm, and she thought she looked dry enough to go through the streets.

But something ailed her dress, it would not dry straight. In spite of pulling and smoothing it would not "come right," and she saw very plainly that she could never wear it again.

"If Mrs. Primkins does her duty," said Mrs. Cole, as at last Nimpo and Robbie started for home, "she'll put you to bed, and give you a hot dose of ginger tea."

"I guess she won't," thought Nimpo, "for I won't tell her a word about it. I hate ginger tea."

It was nearly dusk when she entered the kitchen door, hoping to slip up stairs before any one saw her. But Mrs. Primkins' eyes were sharp.

"Why, Nimpo Riever! What on earth! Have you been in the water?"

Nimpo's heart sank.

"I got a little wet, up at Mrs. Cole's," said she.

"Got a little wet! I should think so! Did you fall in the creek up there?"

"Yes," faltered Nimpo, "but I'm all dry now."

"All dry! Humph! You've probably got your death o' cold. But I'll do my duty anyway, as I promised your ma.—Little did I know what a chore it would be either," she murmured to herself, adding at once, "you go right straight to bed, and be spry about it too, and I'll come up there with a cup of tea for you."

Nimpo groaned, but did not dare to rebel; and besides, she was a little frightened about the "death o' cold." She did not wish to die just yet.

She climbed to her room, undressed, put on dry clothes, and laid down on the bed

In a few minutes Mrs. Primkins came up, in one hand a blanket, in the other a bowl. Putting the bowl on the stand, she first wrapped Nimpo in the blanket, which she had heated by the kitchen fire, and then she held the bowl to her lips and told her to drink every drop.

This tea was, indeed, a "horrid black stuff" as Nimpo inwardly called it, very much worse than ginger tea. Nimpo choked and gasped and gagged, but swallowed it.

Mrs. Primkins smiled grimly, and gave her a lump of sugar to take the taste out of her mouth.

"Now, don't you stir hand or foot out of that blanket, however warm you get. If you don't have a good sweat you'll have a chill, sure's you live. When it's time for you to come out I'll run up or send Augusty;" and down stairs she went.

This ended Nimpo's first whole day of liberty. She had a good chance to think it over as she lay there wide wake. She had spoiled her visit to Nanny, ruined her own nice dress and boots, and, perhaps, caught a dreadful cold and fever.

On the whole she had been unhappy ever since her mother left, though she couldn't exactly see why.

"I wouldn't mind the wetting," she thought, as she lay there alone. "I could stand this horrid blanket, though I believe I shall smother—and that bad stuff!" shuddering as she thought of it; "but I know my dress is spoiled, and what shall I do without a nice dress till mother gets back? And Helen Benson's birthday party next week! Oh, dear! why didn't I wear a clean calico and a white apron as mother always made me?" And Nimpo's first day of freedom actually ended in a fit of tears.

But finally she cried herself to sleep, and when Mrs. Primkins came at bedtime, leading Robbie by the hand, she found her just waking up, and all cold gone.—*From "Nimpo's Troubles," in St. Nicholas.*

The Boys' Holiday.

It was a warm day in June. Mrs. Burton had just seen Fred and Dick set off for school, and now she came back into the house. She looked pale and tired to-day, and no wonder, for she had been hard at work since day-light, and had a severe headache. When she was ready to wash the dishes, she found the fire had gone out, and there was nothing for her to do but build a new one. As soon as it was well started, she went into the parlor and began to sweep.

She had finished sweeping and was about to dust, when she heard Dick just outside.

"Hurrah! three cheers for a holiday! hip, hip, hurrah!" and the two boys burst into the house.

"Mother, mother, where's mother?" cried Fred as they rushed into the parlor.

"O mother, teacher's sick, and we're going to have a holiday. Ain't it jolly?"

Then noticing his mother's pale face, he added:

"O dear! I forgot about your headache, and now we've been making it worse, by our noise. I'm so sorry!"

Mrs. Burton smiled faintly, and Fred continued:

"I'll tell you how we'll spend our holiday. You shall go up stairs and lie down, and we'll finish here."

"My dear, you are very good and kind, but I couldn't think—"

Fred laughingly placed his hand over his mother's mouth.

"I couldn't think of letting you go on," he said, "you've no idea how much we can do."

And at last Mrs Burton was fain to consent. Fred went up stairs with her and beat up her pillows, closed the blinds, and left her with a kiss and an injunction to get all well.

Down stairs, Dick had drawn out the dish-pan and began washing the dishes. Fred helped him, but when they had washed the knives they were sorely perplexed.

"The knives don't look so black when we use 'em,', said Dick.

"I know it. I wonder what mother does to 'em."

"I know," cried Dick, suddenly; "she scours 'em. I saw her do it one day."

"So she does. I wonder where the scouring things are."

After a good deal of search, they found them, and Fred began rubbing the knives while Dick looked on.

"Do let me do it," pleaded the little boy, after a while.

"O, you ain't big enough," said the other, for, it must be confessed, Fred liked to do it very well himself.

Dick didn't say anything, but he looked a good deal, and Fred thought a minute and then said:

"Yes, you are too, you can do it now," and he tied the big green apron around the little boy, so that his head looked like a very small apple on the top of a very large cabbage. Then when the knives and dishes were put away, Fred put on his potatoes to boil, and dusted the parlor as nicely as any girl could do it. Then it was time to set the table, and he peeled the potatoes and put them on a plate in the oven to keep hot until father came.

Fred cut the bread and brought the butter from the cellar, and just as everything was ready father came in.

"Where is mother?"

"Up stairs, lying down."

"Ah! Who got dinner?"

"We did."

"Ah! good boys. I hope you didn't trouble your mother. She had a headache this morning."

"No, she has been lying down all the morning."

But here the conversation was cut short by mamma herself, looking as fresh and pretty as possible in her thin dress.

She felt very much better—almost well, she said, and her good boys had done it all. Just before father went away, mamma whispered something to him at which he laughed and then added aloud, "I'll think of it."

After father was gone Fred and Dick went out to play in the yard behind the house. They hadn't been there more than half an hour when mamma called them. They didn't want to go very much, but they went very pleasantly, and whom do you think they found there? Why, little Charlie Brown and Willis Raymond and Harry Clayton. And such a nice time as they had! And when they were all tired out with play, they went into the dining-room and had just the nicest little supper you ever saw. Then after that they played one nice game of tag, and then the little boys went home.

Just as Fred and Dick were going to sleep, Dick nudged Fred and said,

"Wasn't it nice, Fred, helping mamma and having the party?"

"Yes," said Fred, "but 't would have been nice without that."

"Yes, so it would," said Dick.

And I think so too.—*Congregationalist.*

What Willie's Puppy Did.

Some two or three little boys, almost babies, were standing near a man who was whipping his horse to make him draw a very heavy load of coal. One of them called out in his helpless indignation: "Stop that Mister! You shan't whip that nice old horse any more!"

But still the smutty fellow laid on the whip. Another of the children exclaimed: "You better stop that, or I'll whip you real hard with my horsewhip when I'm a man! Stop, else I'll tell my father of you!"

The man laughed till he looked up and saw the third baby-boy sitting down by a stone wall, crying bitterly, and rubbing his eyes with his white blouse. He stopped his cruel work and called out: "What are you crying for? This isn't your father's horse, little fellow."

"I'm crying 'cause I don't want that nice old horsey hurted. Please don't hurt him any more, and I'll help push the cart, and Sam and Joe will push, too!"

The man laughed out very loud, and said: "Why, you could draw the coal yourself! but why don't you like to see the horse whipped?"

"'Cause, 'cause," sobbed out little Willie, "'cause I've got a puppy at home!"

Now, there seemed no sense, at first thought, in this reply of the dear, tender-hearted child; but there was a great deal of good sense in it. What Willie meant was this; "I own a puppy that I love, and I could not have him whipped nor hurt in any way. And because I love my puppy and am tender of him, I love every other living thing."

Willie's puppy had taught him to be merciful to every dumb creature, and so had done a good work on his little heart.

The child who is tender of a dog, cat, or bird, will never grow up to beat horses. Let children have pets to love and care for—*Methodist.*

Paddle Your Own Canoe.

Judge S. gave his son a thousand dollars, and told him to go to college and graduate. The son returned at the end of the Freshman year, without a dollar, and with several ugly habits. About the close of vacation the Judge said to his son:

"Well, William, are you going to college this year?"

"Have no money, father."

"But I gave you a thousand dollars to graduate on."

"That's all gone, father."

"Very well, my son. I gave you all I could afford to give you; you can't stay here; you must now pay your way in the world."

A new light broke in upon the vision of the young man. He accommodated himself to the situation, he left home, made his way through the college, and graduated at the head of his class—studied law, became Governor of the State of New York, entered the Cabinet of the President of the United States, and made a record for himself that will not soon die, being none other than William H. Seward.

The Humor of the Day.

The Modern Martyr on Ice.

From the Danbury News.

The glare of many-colored lights above, and the glare of the sheet of ice below, dotted here and there with scores of swift gallants and graceful lassies, made an entrancing picture. I found my way down to the ice, and stood on the brink of the intoxicating delight, fully enjoying it.

My early education on skates had been woefully neglected; I never so fully realized this as when I stood by the edge of the pond, with my feet firmly imbedded in the snow, on that December evening, and looked at the lights, the people, and the fun. Very lean men circled, whirled, and skimmed before me. A very short, squatty-looking boy bore down from somewhere, and took up a position in front of me. He had a pair of skates dangling from his arm, and something else not quite so large dangling from his nose. He was a queer-looking boy. When he stopped, he seemed to shut himself up like a telescope. His head settled down upon his shoulders, and his body came down upon his legs as though it had an intention of breaking down those valuable members of society. He evidently had something heavy on his mind. He drummed his heels on the ice before me, and looked absently at the gayety all around him.—While studying him, I commenced to feel an overpowering desire to get out on the pond and distinguish myself, although I had no very well defined idea of how I was to do it. My gaze alternated between his skates and the ice for sometime. I have since thought that the boy was hired by some one to take up that position, but I had no thought of the kind at that time. Such a thought then would have been worth two thousand dollars; coming when it did, it was a damage to me.

Finally, I hailed the young man with a view to mounting his skates. He was corrupt to the core, and a twenty-five cent stamp overcame him like a summer rain. He threw down the skates at my feet and turned his attention to the stamp. He held it up to the light, and then between him and the light; then he rubbed it between his fingers. Its genuineness satisfied him, and he put it away behind his clothes somewhere.

Is your knee's bored? he asked.

What do you mean by that? I asked.

Why, for the corks on the skates, he answered, looking at me curiously.

I felt that I had said something I ought not to, but I told him to put on the skates, as I had the rheumatism in my wrist.

I sat down on the snow, and he went to work. The snow was uncomfortably moist, and my coat was too short to be of any use. I sat there long enough to have absorbed all the moisture within a yard about me. When he got through, he told me to get upon my feet. I got part-ways up, and then it happened to occur to me that this was the first time I had ever been harnessed to two skates at once. The reflection was weightier than would seem possible, and I sat down.

Guess you never skated for a living, remarked the boy, taking hold of my hand.

Not that I remember, I said, faintly.

I let him assist me to my feet just as a party of young folks went skimming by. The owner of the skates was a philanthropist in his way. He pointed to the party and said they were skating round the pond on a wager, and asked me not to run over them. I had all I could do to resist a desire to start in chase of the party and run over them; but managed to repress it. It felt so nice to be on my feet; that I told him I guessed I would start out. I was disappointed in one particular; I thought it would require an effort to start off; but it didn't.

While I was deciding between shooting across the pond like a comet, and marking out a spread eagle in the very center of the ice, a sudden move of the left skate diverted my attention, and the next instant I was looking at the lamps through my legs, and bumping my head ferociously against the ice. This surprised me, and interested the boy. The more so, as I held in my outstretched hand a portion of the hair that a moment ago adorned and protected his scalp.

Why, what on earth did you do that for? he asked, looking at me with considerable uneasiness, and holding his hand on his head.

I didn't make any answer. I saw that I had created a sensation; besides, my head ached. He helped me up, but I noticed he didn't show the enthusiasm he brought out on the first effort; and also, that when he got me to a perpendicular, he showed an inclination to avoid me.

He kept one eye on me; the other revolved towards the shore. This angered me.

I won't hurt you, I said.

I don't want you to, he answered.

Why don't you stay by me, then? I asked.

Because I ain't got much hair, and I ain't old enough to wear a wig.

It was useless to argue with him, and besides, the skates were acting a little uneasy. My knees were wabbling back and forth with increasing speed, and I didn't know but they would become unhinged.

What are you trying to do now; take yourself apart? he asked.

This query exhausted my patience. I braced my knees up, and moved off. I was a grain too ruffled, and I felt very damp where I didn't want to. The owner of the skates was pleased with this movement, but not so intoxicated with delight as to forget his caution. I moved off two yards; then I brought up so quick as to wrench my back; but I kept my feet. However, that cramp in my back troubled me, and I concluded if I had to crack my spine whenever I stopped, I wouldn't stop again. I got along for a couple of rods very well as the ice was cut up here; then I sat down to rest. I really didn't intend to rest there; but as I sat down I thought I might as well rest. Like many amateurs, I was careless of my choice of a sitting-place; otherwise, I would have gone an inch farther, and avoided a small paving stone; I felt quite contented here; there did'nt appear to be any danger. The proprietor of the skates didn't share my satisfaction, however.

Ain't you going any further? he asked.

Not yet, I said.

But supposing it commences to thaw?

I couldn't answer this, and didn't want to. A little ahead of me was an old gentleman and a young lady. The young lady was on skates, and the old gentleman was helping her along. The young lady was very handsome, and I became interested in her progress. I concluded to help her.

Come here, Mr. Hinckley, and help me up again, I said to the boy.

My name ain't Hinckley; though I don't know what it is, my head is so sore, he said, as he pulled me up on my feet.

I had him hold me while I straightened my necktie, and then I told him to let me go when I said ready.

I had laid back for a stunning movement, and opened my mouth to give the signal, when he abruptly let me go. I made an effort to catch myself, but it was abortive. I came down with force sufficient to split the pond wide open, and to send the damp part of my pants up into my throat.

The young man made all haste to get me up; he was really frightened. He said—

I wouldn't do that again, if I were you.

I assured him that I would try my best to suppress and desire ty do it again; but I ventured to affirm that I wouldn't try to control an inclination to knock his head off if he repeated his carelessness. That sobered him.

He hung to me this time till all was ready, and when I gave the command, he let go; and I bore down on the old gentleman and the young lady. They were pretty close to me, and I had but little distance to bore, which was just as well. I came up before them scraping the ice with vigor.

Learning to skate? I remarked, moving about to keep up.

Yes sir, said she, clinging nervously to his whiskers.

Why don't you try it alone? I asked. That is the way I learned.

Ain't it hard? inquired the old gentleman.

Not at all, said I continuing to move about to avoid falling over them. Just look at me now, and see how I do it, and then try the same way, I added, placing my back to them, and preparing to do something to take away their breath.

Are you looking? I said, with confidence, but not daring to turn around.

O, yes, they both cried.

Then here I go, I said, and the words were no sooner uttered than verified. I felt a sudden, rapid movement. I heard a rasping sound beneath me, and then right ahead. The lights gave a sudden whirl and disappeared; and the next minute I struck the ice a tremendous blow with the back of my head. I never had anything to interest me like that. Is absorbed all my attention. I was confident nobody ever had such a fall, not even our first parents or the Niagara River. It was worse than last fall. This consoled me. I made no inquiries for the young lady. I told the boy to come and unharness me, there was not enough variety about skating to suit my fiery nature. Besides, the owner of the pond was a poor man, and had a large family, and this was his only pond.

A New Baby-Washer.

The Pall Mall *Gazette* is a firm believer in the story that an invention is ready for parents which acts as follows:

"You simply insert the begrimed and molasses coated infant in an orifice, which can be made of any required size by turning for ten minutes a cog-wheel with electric attachments. The child glides gently down a highly-polished inclined plane, its lips are met at its terminus by an india rubber tube, from which the infant can draw lacteal nourishment. While in this compartment, which is lined with plateglass mirrors, the perturbed spirit of the infant is soothed by its frantic efforts to demolish its own image, reflected in the glass, with a nickel-plated combined teeth-cutter, nail-knife, rattle and tack-hammer, which are thrust into the baby's hand by an automatic monkey. Fatigued by its destructive efforts, the infant falls asleep, while the organ attachment plays softly the melody of 'Put Me in My Little Bed.' Then it slips into the third compartment. Here the baby is washed. Another small tube administers a dose of soothing syrup, and the infant glides from the machine, its nails pared, its hair combed, ready for the habiliments rendered necessary by the fall of our first parents."

Popular Science.

Antiquity of Man.

In the issue of Nature for October 2, Mr. Alfred Russell Wallace indulges in some speculations on the probable antiquity of the human species, which may will startle even those who have long since come to the conclusion that 6,000 years carry us but a small way back to the original home. In fact, in Mr. Wallace's reckonings 6,000 years are but a day. He begins by complaining of the timidity of scientific men when treating of this subject, and points out the fallacy of always preferring the lowest estimate, in order to be "on the safe side." He declares that all the evidence tends to show that the safe side is probably with the large figures. He reviews the various attempts to determine the antiquity of human remains or works of art, and finds the bronze age in Europe to have been pretty accurately fixed at 3,000 to 4,000 years ago, the stone age of the Swiss lake dwellings at 5,000 to 7000 years "and an indefinite anterior period." The burnt brick found sixty feet deep in the Nile alluvium indicates an antiquity of 20,000 years; another fragment at seventy-two feet gives 30,000 years. "A human skeleton found at a depth of sixteen feet below four buried forests, superposed upon each other, has been calculated by Dr. Dowler to have an antiquity of 50,000 years." But all these estimates pale before those which Kent's Cavern at Torquay legitimates. Here the drip of the stalagmite is the chief factor of our computations, giving us an upper floor which "divides the relics of the last two or three thousand years from a deposit full of the bones of extinct mammalia, many of which, like the reindeer, mammoth and glutton, indicate an arctic climate." Names cut into this stalagmite more than 200 years ago are still legible; in other words, where the stalagmite is twelve feet thick, and the drip still very copious, not more than a hundredth of a foot has been deposited in two centuries—a rate of five feet in 100,000 years. Below this, however, we have a thick, much older, and more crystalline (*i. e.*, more slowly formed) stalagmite, beneath which again, "in a breccia, very different from the cave earth, undoubted works of art have been found." Mr. Wallace assumes only 100,000 years for the upper floor, and about 250,000 for the lower, and adds 150,000 for the intermediate cave earth, by which he arrives at the "sum of half a million as representing the years that have probably elapsed since flints of human workmanship were buried in the lowest deposits of Kent's Cavern."—*The Nation.*

Improvement in the Manufacture of Artificial Stone.

Mr. Frederick Ransome, of England, whose name is so intimately associated with the subject of modern improvements in the manufacture of artificial stone, has just returned to England from a visit to this country. The object of his visit was to call the attention of American engineers to certain improvements in this field recently accomplished by himself. In papers read before the Franklin Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology he elucidated the process of manufacturing the product which he terms "apoenite." The stone known as "Ransome stone" was made by mixing sand with silicate of soda or potassa, and then saturating the same under pressure with chloride of calcium, the result being a material strongly cemented with silicate of lime. The chloride of sodium (common salt), however, formed as a result of this reaction, had to be removed by thorough washing afterward. The "apoenite" process, according to Mr. Ransome, obviates this difficulty by employing such materials for cement as would of themselves become insoluble and require no after treatment with chemicals. This is effected by adding to the sand or other indurate materials hydraulic lime and silica in form of infusorial earth, in connection with some silicate of soda to start the chemical action. The result is the transference, in time, of the active silica, through the agency of the alkali, to the unsaturated base of the hydraulic lime, to form an insoluble double silicate of lime and soda, thus avoiding the necessity of after treatment with water, and the inefficiency of the cementation, by the complete fixation of the alkali.

The papers attracted much discussion at the meetings of the societies named, where the importance of Mr. Ransome's improvements in this branch of technology were warmly appreciated.—*Harper's Magazine.*

Jupiter's Atmosphere.

It does not appear to have been noticed as a remarkable circumstance, that Jupiter should have an atmosphere recognizable from our distant station. Yet in reality this circumstance is not only most remarkable, but is positively inexplicable on any theory by which Jupiter is regarded as a world resembling our own. It is certain that, except by the effects produced when clouds form and dissipate, our terrestrial atmosphere could not be recognized at Jupiter's distance with any telescope power yet applied. But no one who has studied Jupiter with adequate means can for a moment fail to recognize the fact that the signs of an atmosphere indicate much more than the mere formation and dissipation of clouds. I speak here after a careful study of the planet during the late opposition, with a very fine reflecting telescope by Browning, very generously placed at my disposal by Lord Lindsay; and I feel satisfied that no one can study Jupiter for many hours (on a single night) without becoming convinced that the cloud-masses seen on his disk have a *depth* comparable with their length and breadth. Now, the depth of terrestrial cloud masses would at Jupiter's distance be an absolutely evanescent quantity. The span of his disk represents about 84,000 miles, and his satellites, which look little more than points in ordinary telescopes, are all more than 2,000 miles in diameter. I am satisfied that any one who has carefully studied the behavior of Jupiter's cloud-belts will find it difficult to believe that their depth is less than the twentieth part of the diameter of the least satellite. Conceive, however, what the depth of an atmosphere would be in which cloud-masses a hundred miles deep were floating!—R. A. Proctor, *in Popular Science Monthly for February.*

A Freak of Nature.

There were recently exhibited in Berlin and Paris two individuals who attracted much attention among scientific men, owing to a very singular development of hair upon the face and neck. In Paris they received the apellation of *hommes chiens* (dog-men), from the resemblance of the adult's face to that of a Skye terrier. The portrait here given of Andrian Jeftichjew hardly does justice to this striking resemblance, though in other respects it is a faithful representation of the man's curiously hirsute countenance. Andrian is about fifty-five years of age, and is said to be the son of a Russian soldier. In order to escape the derision and the unkind usage of his fellow villagers, Andrian in early life fled to the woods, where, for some time, he lived in a cave. During this period of seclusion he was much given to drunkenness, and even yet he is said to live chiefly on *sauer-kraut* and *schnapps*. His mental condition, however, observes a medical journal, does not seem to have suffered, and he is, on the whole, of a kindly and affectionate disposition to his son and those about him. It may of interest to state that Andrian is an orthodox member of the Russo-Greek Church, and that, degraded as he is intellectually, he has very definite notions about heaven and the hereafter. He hopes to introduce his frightful countenance into the court of heaven, and his present tour may be regarded as a sort of preparation for death, as he devotes all the money he makes, over and above his outlay for creature comforts, to purchasing the prayers of a devout community of monks in his native village, Kostroma, after his mortal career is ended.—*From Popular Science Monthly for February.*

Million Dollar Observatory.

To the many instances of private munificence during the past few years there promises now to be added another, as it has been announced by Professor Davidson to the California Academy of Sciences that Mr. James Lick, of San Francisco, has promised the means to build a telescope of the largest size in the world—probably not less than thirty-five or thirty-six inches aperture. With this instrument will be combined every variety of apparatus commensurate therewith, and of the most perfect description. Mr. Lick proposes to endow his observatory with one million dollars. It is said that there are summits of the Sierra Nevadas of California that are accessible by railroad through the whole winter, and that offer unsurpassed inducements for the establishment of an astronomical observatory. Near Lake Tahoe there are suitable peaks, whose elevation exceed 10,000 feet. Professor Davidson, in communicating to the California Academy the results of his examination of these regions, states that the proportion of clear days and nights is unusually large, amounting to 270 in a year, and the clearness and optical steadiness of the atmosphere is remarkable. There is an almost perfect immunity from dust, the mountain flanks being covered with verdue in summer and snow in winter. He estimates the saving of time and labor to the astronomer to be in the ratio of six months to one or two days. The mildness of the weather on the mountains of the Pacific coast is generally attributed to the great amount of moisture that is condensed in passing over them, and in this respect they offer a remarkable contrast to the White Mountains of New England.—*Harper's Magazine.*

In his message to the Territorial Legislature of Utah, Governor Wood says: "There is now no one in this Territory to unite persons in wedlock." This is peculiarly bad in a region where polygamy is practiced.

GOSSIP.

The city of Philadelphia is $61,000,000 in debt.

Pansies are in bloom in the gardens of Ithica, N. Y.

Mexico has an Indian who is said to be 122 years old.

Church music in Boston requires a yearly expenditure of $142,000.

Over thirty canal boats are to be built at Lockport, N. Y., this season.

Twelve inches of rain at Los Angelos, Cal., during the season—an unusually large amount.

San Francisco has small-pox and scarlet fever both going at once, and undertakers have got up a corner in coffins.

In 1873, Denver claims to have done a business of $15,000,000, and increased its population 5,000.

Cincinnati breeders have discovered that kerosene is good for fattening pork. Look out for explosive sausages.

Dr. Tyng says that teaching children about denominational distinctions is like feeding them on chopped fence rails.

A Virginian insists that the war is not over, and drills himself an hour every day.

About 1,000 pairs of old-fashioned hand-irons are manufactured and sold in Bangor, yearly.

A Patterson, N. J., constable arrested the Deville and served an execution on Death, last week.

Middleport, N. Y., has set up kerosene street lamps, and its young men about town are afraid to "go on a bust" after nightfall.

An Ohio lady bases her claim for a divorce on the ground that on one occasion her husband put her to soak in the rain-water barrel.

The greatest oil well ever struck is the Evans, on the Dougherty farm near Petrana, which produced the first twenty-four hours 4,800 barrels.

A Dubuque young lady gave up the man she loved and took the one her parents favored, in consideration of the sum of $4 and a sky-blue merino dress.

A Duluth couple were married on the ice the other day, and it would have been highly romantic if the bride hadn't fallen down and cracked her auburn head and kicked the minister's feet out from under him.

The New York *Evening Post* thinks the notion of economy which prevails in Congress identical with Dr. Holmes's notion of contentment, namely:

Little I ask; my wants are few;
I only wish a hut or stone,
(A *very plain* brown stone will do).
That I may call my own.

A "flirtatious" young lady in Washington says she knows a great many young gentlemen who belong to the Signal Service.

An English inventor has patented a fire-proof printing paper, composed of vegetable fibre, asbestos, borax and alum, and warranted to bear any amount of burning eloquence or light literature.

Some of the frequent fires in cotton and other factories at the North, may be explained by a discovery made by Professor Brown, of the University of Georgia. He thinks that fires in gin-houses are caused by electrical sparks, generated by rubber bands used for propelling machinery.

A Virginian, writing from Georgia, says that the Southern people are not half poor enough for their own good yet. They haven't learned yet that in order to prosper, they must go to work with their own hands; but as soon as they are reduced to absolute want, and are obliged to do something for themselves, the tide will turn in their favor.

The experiment of tea-growing in California is said to promise success. The climate of a large part of the tea district of China finds a parallel in that of the central Southern States, and there seems to be no reason why Hyson and Bohea should not come from old cotton and rice fields. The necessity for ocean transportation would be done away with, and the native fragrance of the leaf would thus be preserved. Tea exhausts the soil less than either cotton or tobacco.

The New Members of the French Academy.

[From the New York Tribune.]

The three writers who have attained the highest literary honor to which a French author can aspire have acquired distinction in diverse fields of literature. M. Elmo-Marie Caro is from Poitiers, and is in his forty-eighth year. He received his education at both Stanislas College and the Normal School, and was successively Professor of Philosophy at the Lyceums of Angiers, Rouen and Rennes. In 1856 he was sent officially to Antwerp to expound the spiritual and religious teachings of the University of France before the Literary Society of that city, and since that time he has been prominently identified with higher education in France. M. Caro is author of several works of a philosophical and biographical character, including "*Idées de Dieu A ses Nouveaux Critiques*" (1864); "*La Philosophie de Gathe*" (1866), and "*La Vie de Pius IX.*"

Alfred Mezieres, one of the other academicians, is noted for his knowledge of foreign literature. He was born at Rebon, in Moselle, November 19 1826, and is the son of an eminent French writer. After delivering a course of lectures before the faculty of letters at Nancy, he was appointed professor of foreign literature in the Sorbonne. M. Mezieres is author of several books, including "*Shakespeare, ses Ouvres et ses Critiques*" (1861), "*Contemporains et Successeurs de Shakespeare*" (1864), and a critical work on Petrarch, which received the Monty on prize in 1868.

M. Alexandre Dumas, the other author admitted among the select Forty, is the only son of the celebrated novelist. He is in his fiftieth year, and received his education at the Bourbon College in Paris, where he distinguished himself. His principal work of fiction, "*La Dame aux Camelias*," published in 1848, has become one of his best known productions. He is author also of about four other novels, which have found numerous readers. M. Dumas has, however, succeeded best as a popular dramatist by his power of delineating and magnifying the worst side of society in the professed interest of morality. His name is constantly before the French public as a writer on current questions of literature and politics, or as author of a drama or novel which is usually provocative of lively controversy.

A Heathen's Idea.

The Virginia City (Nev.) *Enterprise* relates the following: "Riding along a trail on the crest of a mountain ridge, east of the Lower Sink of the Carson, in 1860, in company with a Piute Captain, we came upon an old grave—a mere sunken spot a few feet off the trail. 'There,' said the Captain, 'there lies one of my men. He was a good man. We buried him there four years ago.' Said we, 'Is he in there yet?' 'No,' said the brave, pointing upward, 'he is there—he is in Pah-ah's country.' 'Now,' said we, wishing to draw out his notions in regard to the immortality of the soul, 'now, suppose we were to dig there, should we not find the skull of your man—his thigh bones and his ribs?' 'Yes,' answers the Indian; 'we should find these.' 'Then how can he be in Pah-ah's country?' 'His bones, his skull and ribs and all his bones are here,' said the Captain, 'but his dream is above with Pah-ah.'"

GOSSIP.

n we ought, but we pity th
not find an interest in th
mund the book
ten by a GRENADE.
as c

A GRANG[illegible]GRENADE.

Oh, come, my love, and live with me
And keep my cottage in the glen—
As patient as a humble bee,
And busy as a setting hen.

Oh, rest beneath my fragrant bower,
Where sweet ammonium doth entwine;
Come, smell the gentle cauliflower
And cull the mangel-wurtzel vine.

Ah! listen to the rural songs!
The pea shall wind his magic shell
As Echo plaintively prolongs
The warble of the pimpernel.

Beyond the verm'celli row
I hear the bull-frogs sigh again—
The cackle of the Durham ewe—
The bellow of the Berkshire hen.

Oh, come, love, come! the morn is fair,
I'll celebrate the day with thee;
I'll merrily dig the Bartlett pear,
And shake the ruta-baga tree.

My sweetest! I am fond of mush,
And thou wilt set some out for me;
We'll early sow the currant bush,
And tap the cranberry-jelly tree.

We'll pull the wool from off the calf,
The cotton-wood its fleece shall shed,
So that the Winter will we laugh,
And gaily weed the oyster-bed.

We'll blithely hoe the Winter wheat,
We'll chase the eggs the squirrels lay,
And when the bantam hoz shall bleat,
We'll feed him with some clover hay.

Then come, my love, and live with me,
And beautify my lonely den,
As patient as an humble bee,
And busy as a setting hen.

An Oil-Dripping Stone.

In a note to a gentleman who has written a book upon the oil regions, Ex-Gov. Horatio Seymour incidentally says: "When you go to Boston visit the Museum of Natural History, Geology, etc., in the State Agricultural Hall, ask the keeper to show you a piece of coral stone, which has to my knowledge been dripping oil for twenty years in that building. It may throw some light on the 'oil question.' The likenesses in your book interested me. They are not of men I know, but they are all marked with intelligence, vigor and enterprise. They make a curious study for those who care for physiognomies. I do not think faces show men's natural traits so much as they do by their histories. What a man has gone through leaves marks on his face. I thought I could read the story of each one before I looked at the letter press."

A man having fallen into a slough, an Irishman standing by, called to another for assistance. The latter, who was busily engaged in cutting a log, leisurely inquired, "How deep is he in?" "Up to his ankles." "Then there is plenty of time." "No, there is not," replied the first. "I forgot to tell you he's in head first."

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REMARKABLE S

Farm, Garden and House.

NO MORTGAGE ON THE FARM.

Mary, let's kill the fatted calf and celebrate the day,
For the last dreadful mortgage on the farm is wiped away;
I have got the papers with me, they are right as right can be—
Let us laugh and sing together, for the dear old farm is free!

Don't all the Yankees celebrate the Fourth Day of July,
Because 'twas then the Freedmen's sun lit up our nation's sky!
Why shouldn't we then celebrate, and this day ne'er forget!
Where is there any freedom like being out of debt!

I've riz up many mornins an hour before the sun,
And night has overtaken me before the task was done.
When weary with my labor, 'twas this thought that nerved my arm:
Each day of toil will help to pay the mortgage on the farm.

And, Mary, you have done your part in rowin' to the shore,
By takin' eggs and butter to the little village store.
You did not spend the money in dressing up for show,
But sang from morn till evening in your faded calico.

And Bessie, our sweet daughter—God bless her loving heart!
The lad that gets her for a wife must be by nature smart—
She's gone without piano, her lonely hours to charm,
To have a hand in payin' off the mortgage on the farm.

I'll build a little cottage soon, to make your heart rejoice;
I'll buy a good piano, to go with Bessie's voice.
You shall not make your butter with that up-and-down concern,
For I'll go this very day and buy the finest patent churn!

Lay by your faded calico, and go with me to town,
And get yourself and Bessie a new and shining gown;
Low prices for our produce need not to give us alarm—
Spruce up a little, Mary! there's no mortgage on the farm!

While our hearts are now so joyful, let us, Mary, not forget
To thank the God of heaven for being out of debt,
For he gave the rain and sunshine, and put strength into my arm,
And lengthened out the days to see no mortgage on the farm.

Wasted Trouble.

I have seen somewhere not long since a paragraph on "Wasted Trouble," pointing out the many ways in which some farmers are wasting their strength in useless labor, such as manuring land to grow weeds; making manure to waste in the air or by washing; buying good tools to rot in the weather; putting up buildings to decay for want of paint; plowing and planting water-soaked land and getting nothing from it; buying animals or raising them to freeze in cold winds, raising fodder for cattle to tread in the mud, and buying land to consume badly directed labor on it.

Begin with manuring land to grow weeds—or allowing weeds to grow any way. I have seen an estimate, and I have no doubt it is a correct one, that all the weeds grown on farms in the Union would fill a close line of wagons a ton each, around the whole circumference of the world; and that the ragweeds alone which grow after harvest in the State of Ohio and Indiana, would fill a similar line two thousand miles long. These two are not worse than other States. Now, suppose instead of growing worse than useless weeds, all the strength of the soil were expended in raising good clover and timothy hay, worth on an average ten dollars a ton; how much money would those long lines of wagons loaded with weeds bring the owners of the land? The two thousand miles of Ohio and Indiana rag weeds, calling them 300 to a mile, would be 600,000 tons, worth six million dollars! The 25,000 miles of United States weeds would be 7,500,000 tons, worth seventy-five million dollars! all wasted, and worse than wasted every year, by our hard working, penny-saving, thrifty-city-loving people of these States. I have seen a farmer who would go to law for a disputed strip of land one foot wide next his neighbor's farm, and in the very first twenty-acre field allowed at least five tons of rank thistles to grow without hindrance. Now, let's figure a little on these thistles. The five tons, if good hay, would be worth fifty dollars; and fifty dollars wasted every year through forty years of farming, or from thirty to seventy years of age—would be quite a snug sum. The young arithmeticians who read the "Country Gentleman" can readily calculate it by compound interest, adding in the fifty dollars each year, and the annual accumulated interest. At seven per cent. it would amount to $9,980—enough to buy a good farm in many places. So much for the field of thistles.

Now for the wasted manure. There is no question that most of the farmers of the country would at least double the value of their manure by preventing its waste in washing away in liquid form or exhaling into the air, for the winds to carry to the mountains or ocean. Such a man as Mr. Crozier, of Long Island, I venture to affirm, would make four times as much manure from a given number of animals, by his chopped straw and muck, and other absorbents, as the million farmers in this country who read no agricultural paper. At least one-half of the owners of farm lands lose by bad management, two hundred loads of manure every year for every hundred tilled acres. It is hard to say what this loss is in the starved crops, doubtless a dollar for each wasted load, or two hundred dollars a year; but calling it only one half that sum, here are a hundred dollars wasted every year on each hundred acres—which, according to the figuring for the thistles, would be $19,960 in forty years of farming. Many will say it is more likely twice that sum. What will it be for the whole country at large? At least a hundred million dollars annually—probably two hundred millions?

Go over the waste in allowing tools to rot for the want of protection—or for want of keeping the wooden parts well oiled. It would not be so much as the last, but it would unquestionably amount to millions yearly in the whole country. Go over the loss from the omission to protect by paint or petroleum the exposed parts of costly buildings, and the wasted amount will be as great.

It is hardly necessary to carry these estimates farther. Those who thing the figures too high, will please give them a corrected shape, making them lower where too high, and higher where too low, but do not deny them without giving something better or more accurate. Whatever they may be, they show that the friends of rural improvement and good farming have something yet to do before American agriculture has generally reached perfection, and agricultural journals to assist in the work will be needed for some little time yet to come. —*A farmer in Country Gentleman.*

Flow of Sap.

In the extensive and admirable series of experiments and observations at the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, as detailed in the lecture of President Clark before the State Board of Agriculture at Fitchburg, and designed to ascertain the laws in relation to the flow or circulation of sap in different species of trees and plants it was discovered that each species of those which flowed had its own time of beginning, when it seemed to awake from its winter's repose; that the flow steadily increased in quantity and force, as influenced by the weight of sap and the pressure on a mecurial guage, until it reached its maximum, and then gradually declined; and that the composition of the sap of the several species differed remarkably, according to the date of the bow and especially the time of its beginning.

This singular periodicity, peculiar to every species, demonstrates that the absorption of water by the rootlets is not caused by osmose, or any other mere physical force, but is the result of the specific life, which imparts to every plant its distinctive characteristics.

The sugar maple begins to flow in October, reaches its maximum about the 1st of May. Mr. H. S. Goodale, of Mount Washington, Mass., a member of the Board of Agriculture, states that he has made maple sugar from sap collected in the months of October, November, January, March, April and May. The black birch begins to flow the last of March, attains its maximum the last of April and stops about the middle of May. The wild summer grape vine commences about the 1st of May, arrives at its maximum of flow and pressure about the 20th of May, and ceases early in June.

This difference in the season of flowing is, of course, accompanied by a corresponding variation in the temperature of the soil and the atmosphere, and very naturally, also, in the chemical composition of the sap. Thus, the principal ingredient of maple sap is cane sugar, that of birch sap is grape sugar, and that of vine sap is mucilage or gum.

These three carbo-hydrates, cane sugar, grape sugar and gum are doubtless chiefly formed out of the starch which has descended to the root of the plant as the result of the previous season's growth. It seems probable that these transformations occur in the sap after the period of activity begins, and in the following order, viz: Insoluble starch, whether deposited in the cells of the root or previously transferred in solution to those of the stem, and there stored during the period of repose, become soluble gum, gum becomes uncrystallizable grape sugar, and this, under favorable circumstances, becomes cane sugar. Why then do we find cane sugar in the maple and not in the birch, and why only gum as the chief ingredient in the sap of the vine, and of those trees which do not acquire the power of active absorption until the development of their buds? Probably because these transformations require time, and the maple alone is gorged with sap during the six months intervening between the fall of the leaf and the beginning of growth in the spring. This affords ample time for chemical changes, and seems to have some connection with the fact that the maples are the only trees from which crystallizable cane sugar can be profitably extracted.

For a similar reason, since we find the birches filled with sap for several weeks before a bud begins to expand, we may reasonably expect the formation of grape sugar at least in them, and in the north of Europe a sweet syrup is obtained by the evaporation of their sap.

The spring sap of the vine at the beginning of its motion, about the first of May, contains no sugar of any kind, but three weeks later it often acquires a sweetish taste, and then we may find a trace of grape sugar. At this period the beginning of vegetable growth is attended by the rapid exosmosis of the water of the crude sap, and the assimilation of its gum, in the formation of cellulose, and this is precisely the transformation which ordinarily occurs in plants at the beginning of the vegetating season.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Farm Poultry.

Mr. Stephens, in his *Book of the Farm*, says: Of all the animals reared on a farm there are none so much neglected by the farmer, both in regard to the selection of their kind, and their qualifications to fatten, as all the sorts of domesticated fowls found in the farmyard. Indeed, the very supposition that he would devote any of his time to the consideration of poultry, is regarded a positive affront on his manhood. Women, in this estimation, may be fit enough for such a charge, and doubtless they would do it well; provided they were not begrudged every particle of food bestowed upon those useful creatures. The consequence is what might be expected in the circumstances, that go to most farmsteads and the surprise will be to meet a single fowl of any description in good condition, that is to say, in such a condition that it might be killed at the instant in a fit state for the table, which it might be if it had been treated as a fattening animal from its birth. The usual objection raised against feeding fowls is, that it does not pay, and, no doubt the usual price received for lean, stingy-fleshed, sinewy-legged fowls is far from remunerative; but whose fault is it but the rearer of them, that fowls are sent to market in such a state? And why should purchasers give a high price for any animal, be it fowls or beast, that is under condition? There would be some excuse for the existence of lean fowls at a farmstead were there any difficulty of fattening poultry of every kind; but the idea of expense is a perfect bugbear; and this one, like all others that seize us through our fears, would vanish, were a plan adopted for rearing fowls more consonant to common sense than the one usually pursued. To judge from common practice, the prevalent sentiment seems to be, that fowls cannot be ill-off when they get leave to shift themselves. Such a principle is a grievious error in the rearing of any kind of live stock. Better a man keep no stock at all than allow such a sentiment to influence his conduct to them. Fowls may be considered worthless stock, and so they generally are, but are you sure that it is not your mode of managing them that renders them so. But, apart from every consideration of profit derived from the sales in market towns, there is the superior one of the farmer having it at all times in his power to eat a well-fed fowl at his own table; and there is no good reason why he should not be able to enjoy such a luxury at any time he chooses. There would be economy in it too, in the long run, inasmuch as good poultry at command will keep him out of a butcher's market, into which he cannot go without cash in hand, and cash he cannot command except by realizing the money value of some commodity or other from the farm. Few farmers kill their own mutton, that is to say, keep fine, fat sheep for their own use; but like beef, it must be purchased; so that situated as the farmer usually is, the produce of the poultry-yard and pig-stye constitute the principal items of his board. And why should he not have these in the highest perfection?

Plaster—How and When to Use It.

The following was furnished to Colman's *Rural World* by Professor Joseph Lucci:

PLASTER AS A FERTILIZER.—Among the manufactured products which ought to be employed by the farmers in the beginning of the year as a fertilizing agent we will place the common plaster. Its applications are numerous, and the modes of applying vary according to the mixture of the crop.

Plaster is a compound salt or lime and sulphuric acid, known under the name of gypsum, or sulphate of lime: its composition when pure is, sulphuric acid 46, lime 33, water 24. There are often variations in the formula of commercial plaster, due to the calcination and the presence of foreign matter, such as silica and carbonate of lime; but none can be injurious in its application as a fertilizer. There are five commonly cultivated crops which contain gypsum in sensible proportions; they are: Lucerne, sainfoin, red clover, rye, grass, turnips: but its transformation by absorption of ammonia enables its constituents to become the food of other varieties of crops, such as wheat, barley, oats, beans, peas and vines.

Professor Liebig contends that the nature of gypsum consists in giving a fixed constitution to the nitrogen, or ammonia, which is brought into the soil, and is indispensable to the nutrition of plants. He says that "100 pounds of gypsum gives as much ammonia as 6,240 pounds of horse's urine would yield; four pounds of gypsum increase the produce of meadows 100 pounds."

WHEAT.—Upon winter wheat there should be a top dressing of about fifty pounds to the acre in the fall when it comes up, and another like dressing in the spring. In cases where it has been affected by the severity of the winter, and especially in all cases where it is uneven in growth, with spots nearly killed out, a larger application should be made, full 100 pounds to the acre, and making even more liberal application than that to the poor spots. The effect will appear marvelous.

GRASSES AND RED CLOVER.—After seeding, when the frost first leaves the ground in the earlier part of the spring, (April) we ought to sow plaster on the soil, about 100 pounds to the acre. When grass or clover are one, two or more years old, sow the quantity per acre when the plant is three to four inches high, and, if possible, during wet weather.

Handling Wet Soil.

On this subject the California *Agriculturist* says: Better not do it, because it is an injury to it—an injury that years of careful culture cannot remedy. Heavy soil, once puddled and packed when wet remains so for a long time. Every step the horses take on wet soil, poaches it. The plow turns it over without pulverizing it, and leaves a stiff glaze on the furrows. Better lie idle for a few days, or even sow the grain without plowing, and scratch it in when the surface dries off, than ruin or seriously injure the soil by puddle-plowing. This way that many farmers of California have of rushing through when they get started, rain or shine, mud or mellow, regardless of consequences, is not according to the dictates of common sense, and is not profitable either. Better pay your hired man to let it alone, than to plow the soil when too wet.

Mulching Winter Wheat.

On this subject a correspondent of the *California Farmer* writes: Having tried the plan of mulching winter wheat, I can say with confidence that it is a plan to be commended. In 1870, I drilled a piece of wet land in wheat and sowed broadcast with it, and before drilling the wheat, one bushel of oats per acre, with the best results. The oats grew to be a foot high by frost; when killed made the finest evenest coat of mulching one could wish. I never had grown a crop of grain or corn on the land before. It was good for grass. The yield that year was thirty-one bushels per acre. I have tried the experiment of mulching with straw with good effect; but oats is both the best and cheapest, as it costs less to furnish and sow the oats than it does to mulch an acre with straw. I would like, as you suggest, to hear the experience of others on the subject.

Covering Bridle Bits.

A friend to horses writes as follows to the Farmer's Union: Take a strip of muslin about two inches wide, dip it in melted beeswax, and when sufficiently cooled lay it on the bit and wrap it over so as to cover the bit. One thickness of the muslin on the bit is sufficient. If there is a joint in the middle of it, the saturated muslin must be in two pieces, leaving the joint free. Beeswax is such a good non-conductor that, with the above dressing, bits will not require warming in the coldest weather. A thread wound at each end of the wrapping will better secure it from coming off. The above dressing will remain on, not only through the winter, but for a year or more if not taken off intentionally.

Alkaline Soils.

Bishop Musser, at the Denver, (Col.) Convention, said: "Our reclaimed alkali lands, of which we have many thousand acres, are among our richest, strongest, and consequently most remunerative soils. The power of reclamation is simply leaching the land by successive elaborate irrigation, and by repeated plowing, thus exposing it to the direct influence of segregating elements, which carry off the volatile and objectionable ingredients." Drainage is also used in reclaiming alkaline soils there, so we are informed on good authority, but always in connection with irrigation. When such soil is filled with water much of the alkali will leak away through drains. Under drainage is best for this purpose.

Change of Seed.

The *American Agriculturist* answers a correspondent by saying: With all other grains than corn a change of seed now and then is considered advisable. Potatoes are especially improved by a change procured from a different locality and soil. But corn has not generally been found to deteriorate by long planting; on the other hand there are many farmers who are now planting seed produced from the corn their fathers planted a generation ago. Running out of the corn is more likely to be the result of impoverished soil, and the best method of improvement would probably be a crop of clover upon the land, to plowed under, or some other substantial fertilizer.

Alfalfa in the North.

The *Country Gentleman* says, "There seems to be some uncertainty yet, just how much frost lucerne will endure. It has been reported to live through the winter on the shore of Lake Superior, but in this case, snow covered the ground all winter. A close observer in the New England States thinks it will live anywhere, if the ground is not frozen too deeply before snow covers it. An isolated case is reported from Chautauqua county, N. Y., where alfalfa has endured four winters planted in a lane, under some maple trees, where the snow is usually all blown off by the winds. It was planted then as a curiosity and was called "California clover."

The Amazon.

In 1867 Brazil opened the Amazon to the commerce of the world, and Peru followed her example in 1868. There are now three monthly lines of steamers from Para to Liverpool and New York. Within twenty-five years Para has arisen from nothing to a populous city of 70,000 inhabitants. The Amazon is now navigated by a British Company which has absorbed the Brazilian and Peruvian steamers, and is constructing ten new ones for the same trade upon the Mersey, of various burthens, from 367 to 751 tons. Such rapid growth of commerce could not be stimulated in a wilderness without the presence of the greatest natural facilities.

☞ Many "curious people" have wondered how many apples our first parents ate in the Garden of Eden at the time of the fall which entailed a curse upon their posterity. It remained for a modern genius to "figure it out." EVE 8, and ADAM 7.

A Tennessee Story.

[Chattanooga Times.]

A gentleman connected with the engineer department of the Cincinnati Southern Railway, gives us an amusing account of a most cruel case of imprisonment at Huntsville, Scott county, during the summer of 1872. The remarkable prisoner, and the circumstances attending his cruel confinement, were first brought to the notice of the engineers by a lawyer named Overton, who was in that country investigating some land titles. Being in Huntsville one day, Overton's attention was attracted by the conversation of some frequenters of an apple-brandy "mill." The party were much excited over the cruel and outrageous imprisonment of "one of our fellows," at the instance of some wretch of a U. S. Marshal. Overton's sympathies were excited, and he enquired the cause and circumstances of his imprisonment.

"Thar he is," said the spokesman of the party; "over thar on the fence."

Overton looked across the street, and beheld a seedy individual, perched upon the fence, leisurely whittling a pine shingle. The sympathetic lawyer approached the prisoner, and inquired of him if he was in trouble.

Prisoner—"Yes; put me in here; charge of 'licit 'stillin'."

O—"And they keep you pretty close?"

Prisoner—"Yaas. Time 'bout half out. Got transferred from Knoxville jail."

O.—"Who is your jailer?"

Prisoner—"Jailer? Ha'ant any. Carry the keys myself."

At this juncture the party from the drinking shop had crossed the street, and came up to where Overton and the prisoner were talking.

"Yaas," said the spokesman, "d—n shame. Them d—d marshalls had better not come about here no more. Come over and have a drink."

And the whole party, prisoner included, adjourned to the "mill" and took a drink of brandy.

In a few days "one of the boys" of the engineer corps, who had heard of this remarkable prisoner, visited the jail at Huntsville. The door stood wide open, and a man was in the only room, alone, hammering away at some sort of carpenter work.

In answer to the question if he was the unfortunate person who was suffering the tortures of imprisonment for the crime of making a few gallons of eye-opener, he replied;

"Y-a-a-s. Got me in here." And the suffering convict put on such a look of distress that the man of transits and targets said;

"D—n shame. Come over and let's have a drink."

And over went the two, the prisoner locking the door behind him.

The next day or two, two of the engineer corps met this foul-used convict in the woods, with a gun on his shoulder and a lot of game over the other. In answer to a question they got the stereotyped reply:

"Y-a-a-s. Got me in here. 'Licit stillin'."

A few days more, and one of the engineers met the oppressed individual three miles from Huntsville, on his way home to spend a few days with his family.

"And you're the prisoner?"

"Y-a-a-s; got me in here."

The facts herein are vouched for by the gentleman who related them to us, and we have no doubt of their substantial truth. The circumstances reveal an amount of cold-blooded cruelty upon the part of the citizens and officials of Scott county rarely equalled in modern times.

The Iron and Steel Interest.

The American Iron and Steel Association met on the 4th, at Pittsburgh. The Secretary submitted a report stating that the members of the Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain will postpone their proposed visit until the time of the Centennial Exposition. "It is the plain duty of Congress," says the report, "to repeal the act of 1872, reducing the duties on iron 10 per cent." The general iron trade of the country is but little more prosperous than at the beginning of the panic.

Returns have been received from 50 rail-mills, only 17 being in operation, and from 385 furnaces, of which 247 were in blast, and 138 out of blast. There is a stock of Iron on hand of 308,430 tons, and 12,432 hands out of employment. It is estimated that in the whole country 30,000 men are unemployed, from the stoppage of furnaces and rail mills.

Elections In England.

A Liberal candidate has been returned for Newry; a Liberal gain.

The borough of Stafford re-elects Thomas Salt jr., Conservative, and returns Macdonald, the workingmen's candidate.

Disraeli addressed a meeting at Newport on the 4th. In the course of his remarks he said that Gladstone's Irish policy had utterly failed. Instead of producing tranquility in the country, Ireland was now in a more disturbed state and more stringently governed than ever before. He also said that but for the University of London, Lowe would be without a seat in Parliament. His unpopularity was such that his appearance on any hustings would endanger his life. Throughout the whole of Disraeli's speech a mob pelted with stones the windows of the hall in which the meeting was held. They attempted to break up the meeting, when a free fight ensued.

The polling at Hackney has been declared void, because of informalities.

At Stalybridge, Lancashire, serious riots occurred during the progress of the election, and many persons were injured.

At Dudley, Worcestershire, a conflict occurred between an imported mob of Irishmen and miners. A number of houses were ransacked and much property destroyed. The riot act was read, all the shops closed, and it was feared the whole population would rise against the intruders. A company of soldiers was sent from Birmingham to aid the authorities in restoring order.

Additional returns show that the Conservatives have gained one seat each at Buckingham, Canterbury, Christchurch, Marylebone, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Salisbury and St. Ives, and the Liberals have gained one each at Abingdon, Hartlepool, Monmouth and Stockport. Liberal members of the old Parliament have been re-elected from Darlington, Huddersfield, Hull, Leicester and Perth by large majorities.

Mundella and Roebuck are elected from Sheffield, Roebuck heading the polling 1,300 votes.

Forsyth, Conservative at Marylebone, had a majority of 1,500 over the Liberal candidate.

Sir Joseph Cowen, Radical, has been returned from Newcastle-on-Tyne by 2,000 majority over his Conservative opponent.

Home Rule candidates have been elected in the Irish constituencies of Mallow and Youghal, County Cork.

While on the Peninsula during the war, an officer came across a private belonging to one of the most predatory companies of the Irish brigade, with the lifeless body of a goose and a hen, tied together by the legs, dangling from his musket. "Where did you steal those, you rascal?" "Faith, I was marching along with Color-Sargeant Maguire, and the goose—bad cess to it—came out and hissed the American flag." "But the hen, sir; how about her?" "The hen, bless ye, was in bad company, and laying eggs for the rebbles."

Washington News.

Secretary Robeson appeared before the Senate Committee Committee on Naval Affairs on the 4th inst., for the purpose of making suggestions relative to the different measures before Congress affecting the navy, and principally to give his view with reference to the bill to encourage the establishment of public Marine Schools for the instruction of young men in nautical science. The Committee agreed to report a bill without amendments perfecting its details.

The House Committee on Appropriations had before them on the 4th inst., Mr. Consul, Chief of the Loan Branch, and Mr. Vanderbilt, the Appointment Clerk of the Treasury Department, on the subject of reducing the clerical force in that Department, and making other economical reforms.

The Secretary of the Interior has submitted to the House of Representatives proposed amendments to the Indian Intercourse act of 1835, designed to secure the Indians in any locality against the liquor traffic. It provides heavy penalties against any person, including Indians, who shall sell, exchange, give, barter, or dispose of any spirituous liquor or wine to any Indians under charge of any Indian Superintendent or Indian Agent, or to any Indian not a citizen of the United States within such jurisdiction.

General C. Harney, whose name was such a terror to the Indians a few years ago, was before the House Committee on Military Affairs, and was asked to give his views in reference to Indian matters. He gave it as his opinion that if the Indians were treated fairly there would never be any difficulties with them. He had known but two instances in which they had ever violated treaty stipulations, and in those two instances the Indians would be excused, for the treaties had grown old before they were sought to be enforced by the Government, and the Sheriffs and head men who had made them were all dead. Troubles with the Indians were principally caused by fraudulent agents and whisky-dealers. He had never known an Indian Agent who had not grown rich in office, except one. On being asked how whisky sellers could be suppressed, he answered without hesitation that they should be hanged or shot by the nearest military officer. He would have the officer take that responsibility. He was decidedly of the opinion that the management of the Indians would be much more efficiently and honestly conducted by army officers than by civilians, unless the army officers had changed very much since he knew them.

The President has nominated Daniel Wilson as Postmaster at Grafton, West Virginia.

☞ From all parts of the country we get intelligence of the general sale of kerosene oil which will not stand the fire test prescribed by law. Do dealers know the risk taken when they sell such oil? Retail dealers are scarcely expected to test every barrel bought, but wholesale dealers and manufacturers are expected to sell nothing but the genuine article, and when they dilute it with benzine or any of the other evaporations from kerosene, they should be made to feel the just penalty of the law for endangering the lives and property of their customers.

☞ The New York *Tribune*, a few days since, announced its purpose, in a few days thereafter, to make a most startling disclosure, but now states that a portion of the documents furnished it were forgeries. It looks very much as though the *Tribune* either sought a little cheap advertising or a good lot of "hush" money. Why did it announce that it had such astonishing revelations until it was prepared to make them public? It don't look well, turn it as you may.

☞ A New York Health Officer recently reported that his ward was troubled with "higinnies," which he explained to mean a bad odor arising from the gutters. New York can go up head.

☞ We are gratified to announce that GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN declares his speech-making days ended—that "those who have not heard me, never will hear me."

☞ Railroads are taxed three per cent. in Wisconsin, which is said to be the highest tax levied upon them in any State from New York to Iowa.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam

For coughs, colds, bronchitis, croup, hooping cough, and lung diseases generally, Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs has no superior. It does not, by the oblivious influence of narcotics, render you insensible to the pain and ravages of the disease, but it strikes at the root of the complaint, and by its healing virtues effects a radical cure of the diseased structure of the lungs.

Scovill's Blood and Liver Sirup.

Scovill's Blood and Liver Sirup is the great blood purifier and life renewer. Scrofulous diseases are the result of a poison in the blood and fluids of the system that act as a ferment, and an infection which finally manifests itself by swellings, tumors, sores, ulcers, and eruptions on the surface of the body, or by the deposit of foreign and unorganized matter in the interior organs, perverting their important functions, and causing abscesses and ulcers which waste away the life. The use of the Blood and Liver Sirup will infallibly exterminate this poison, and effect a radical cure of the various disorders to which it gives rise.

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THE
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Why throw away money on high-priced Music when you can select from our Catalogue of 700 pieces? Any 20 Half-Dime, or 10 of Dime Series, mailed on receipt of One Dollar. Sold by all booksellers, and can be ordered through any newsdealer. Send stamp for Catalogue. ADDRESS BENJ. W. HITCHCOCK, Publisher, 449 Third Avenue, New York.

THE BEATRICE.—Best of all early Peaches: ripe two weeks before any other. Monarch Strawberries, Herstine Raspberries, Asparagus and Rhubarb. Send for catalogues. WM. PARRY, Cinnaminson, N. J.

SAW MILL MEN.
Will prolong their lives, make better lumber and earn money easier and faster, by using
MEINER PATENT HEAD BLOCKS.
Descriptive circular sent upon application.
SINKER, DAVIS & CO., Indianapolis, Ind.

MARTIN'S IMPROVED
BRICK MACHINE.
Will make more and better brick than any Machine in Use. Adopted and Used by the Leading Brick Manufacturers. Manufactured and sold by
ADAMS MFG CO., Chicopee, Mass.

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25 CENTS,
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Locke's National Monthly 3 Months,
It will contain a splendid story by D. R. LOCKE, entitled
"JOHN DUNCAN'S WIDOW."
SEND FOR IT.

H. J. HAYES CO.,
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Insure in the TRAVELERS of Hartford, Ct

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OPIUM, MORPHINE AND LAUDANUM HABIT
Cured without pain or change of diet or habits of living. Circulars sent free. DR. J. MONROE WHITTLESEY, Toledo, Ohio.

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One package of Prof. Hall's Magic Compound will force whiskers to grow thick and heavy on the smooth vest face (without injury) in 21 days or money refunded. 25 cts a package, postpaid, or 3 for 50 cts. One application of my "Hair Curler" will curl the hair of either sex beautifully. Satisfaction guaranteed. 25 cts a pack age, postpaid, 3 for 50 cts. EDGAR W. JONES, ASHLAND, MASS.

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FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE
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OVER A MILLION IN BANK,
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A FULL DRAWING ASSURED!
Tuesday, the 31st of March, Next.
Only 65,000 Tickets have been issued, and
$1,500,000,
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List of Gifts

ONE GRAND CASH GIFT	$250,000
ONE GRAND CASH GIFT	100,000
ONE GRAND CASH GIFT	50,000
ONE GRAND CASH GIFT	25,000
ONE GRAND CASH GIFT	17,500
10 Cash Gifts, $10,000 each	100,000
20 Cash Gifts, $5,000 each	100,000
50 Cash Gifts, $1,000 each	50,000
60 Cash Gifts, $ each	40,000
100 Cash Gifts, $ each	40,000
150 Cash Gifts, $300 each	45,000
250 Cash Gifts, $200 each	50,000
500 Cash Gifts, $100 each	50,000
11,000 Cash Gifts, $50 each	550,000
Total, 12,000 Gifts, all cash, amounting to	$1,500,000

The Concert and distribution of gifts will positively and unequivocally take place on the day now fixed, whether all the tickets are sold or not, and the 12,000 gifts all paid in proportion to the number of tickets sold.

Price of Tickets.

Whole tickets, $50; Halves, $25; Tenths or each coupon, $5; eleven whole tickets for $500; 25½ tickets for $1,000; 111 whole tickets for $5,000; 227 whole tickets for $10,000. No discount on less than $500 worth of tickets.
THO. E. BRAMLETTE,
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MURDER Will out! Truth Triumphs! Anyone who wishes to know more about the Murder of Nasby, can learn all about it by sending 25 cts. to Address P. O. HUBBARD & CO., Augusta, Maine.

TO THE LADIES.—A 24 page book, containing advice to females of great importance, sent free for two stamps. Address MRS. H. METTLER, Hoboken, Pa.

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Drawings every 17 days, commencing January 8, 1874.
782 Prizes amounting to $450,000
1 Prize of 100,000
1 Prize of 50,000
1 Prize of 25,000
2 Prizes of $10,000 each 20,000
10 Prizes of $1,000 each 10,000
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655 Prizes of $300 each 196,500
Circulars with full information sent FREE. Tickets for sale and prizes cashed by P. C. DEVLIN, Stationer and General Agent, 30 Liberty St., New York.

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Endorsed and prescribed by all the leading physicians throughout the country, as being the greatest Antacid yet presented to the medical public. It immediately and certainly relieves HEARTBURN, SOUR STOMACH, DESPEPSIA, AND HEADACHES caused by sourness or acidity of the stomach or bowels. Its action as a laxative for children is superior to any other preparation, requiring no persuasion to induce them to take it, and is peculiarly adapted to females during pregnancy. A positive prevention against the food of infants souring on the stomach. For sale by all druggists.
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$450,000 distributed in Prizes every 17 days. Orders filled, information furnished. Spanish Bank Bills and Governments purchased. TAYLOR & CO., Bankers. Removed to 11 Wall St., New York.

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$300,000
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LEGALIZED BY STATE AUTHORITY, AND DRAWN IN PUBLIC IN ST. LOUIS.
GRAND SINGLE NUMBER SCHEME!
50,000 NUMBERS.
Class B, to be Drawn Feb. 28, 1874
5,880 Prizes, amounting to $300,000.

1 prize of	$50,000	500	prizes of	$ 100	
1 prize of	10,450	9	prizes of	1,000	
1 prize of	10,000	9	prizes of	500	
1 prize of	5,500	9	prizes of	300	
4 prizes of	5,000	9	prizes of	252	
4 prizes of	2,500	36	prizes of	200	
20 prizes of	1,000	36	prizes of	152	
30 prize of	500	180	prizes of	100	
40 prize of	250	5,000	prizes of	10	

Tickets, $10; Half do, $5; Quarters, $2.50.
☞ Our lotteries are chartered by the State are always drawn at the time named, and all drawings are under the supervision of sworn commissioners.
☞ The official drawing will be published in the St. Louis papers, and a copy of Drawing sent to purchasers of tickets.
☞ We will draw a similar scheme the last day of every month during the year 1874.
☞ Remit by POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS, REGISTERED LETTER, DRA

News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

General Humphreys has decided in favor of the views of Major Howell, concerning the Fort St. Pablo Canal, and will send his report to Congress on Thursday. It seems probable that Congress will make appropriations to commence work at an early day.

The Committee of Ways and Means will not, for several weeks to come, act definitely on the various financial propositions before them. The action taken by the Committee on the subject of the tariff thus far has merely been to correct errors, and not with a view of increasing the receipts from customs. The amendments, however, which they recommended will have the effect of increasing the revenue about $2,000,000 on silks, fruits and books. It is apprehended by some of the members of the Committee that the introduction of these amendments to the existing laws may have the effect of reopening the entire question of tariff.

The bill reported by Representative Tyner in the House amendatory of the Postal Law provides that on newspapers and other periodicals not exceeding four ounces of weight, sent from the known office of publication to regular and bona fide subscribers, postage shall be charged at the following rates per quarter pound, namely: One publication, issued less frequently than once a week, two cents; issued twice a week, six cents; three times a week, nine cents; six times a week, 18 cents, and daily, 21 cents; and an additional rate shall be charged for each additional four ounces of weight, provided that one copy of a weekly newspaper may be sent to each subscriber thereof in the county where they are printed and published free of postage, and publishers of newspapers and periodicals may mutually exchange their publications, not exceeding one copy in each exchange, free of postage. All miscellaneous matter of the third class, including books, flexible patterns, samples of ores, metals, minerals and merchandise, sample cards, photographic paper, letter envelopes, postal envelopes and wrappers, cards, printed or unprinted, and on all matter not chargeable with letter rates or by law excluded from the mails, the postage shall be one cent. for each two ounces or fractional part of two ounces; that the maximum weight of all such packages shall not exceed four ounces. It shall be lawful for any person to write in any book, pamphlet, periodical, magazine, or other matter of the third class a brief form of presentation, or write his or her name on the wrapper thereof, or number and name of the articles enclosed, without additional postage.

The Senate Military Committee have agreed to report a bill, to be hereafter framed, for an equalization of bounties. It will be on the basis of the bill introduced by Senator Caldwell last year, which proposed to give a uniform bounty of $8.33⅓ per month to each and every officer and private who served at any time either in the regular or volunteer service, between April 15, 1861, and April 15, 1867, the bounty payments already paid to be deducted and the benefits of the above provision to be extended also to the widows or other heirs of deceased soldiers.

A bill was filed for Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, in the Equity Court on the 23d inst., for an injunction against the Hon. Caleb Cushing, on which Judge Wylie granted a restraining order, returnable the 15th inst. Mrs. Gaines charges that she conveyed to Mr. Cushing certain lands in Louisiana, numbering 68,000 acres, and received from him a counter-deed acknowledging the trust, and afterward, in his own name, he obtained a confirmation of title to said lands, denying her right to any interest in them. She now asks an injunction to prevent the respondent from receiving the patents and certificates for said lands from the Interior Department.

The bill to incorporate the Southern Trans-Continental Railroad, was sent to the Committee of the Whole in the House on the 4th, on the ground that the bill made a grant of public property.

Senator Carpenter's bill to restore the rights of the State of Louisiana declares that there is no Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, Superintendent of Education, or Legislature elected by the legal voters of the State, according to the constitution and laws. There is no provision in the constitution and laws for an election of State officers before November, 1876; that the offices are now filled de facto by persons claiming to hold them under a pretended, fraudulent and void canvass of votes given at the last general election, that a pretended Legislature has been organized in pursuance of illegal orders issued by a Judge of the United States Circuit Court; that the President's proclamation recognizing these persons as legal officers of the State was issued upon the representations of these persons, who, it now appears, are not the legal officers; that the people are in danger of being oppressed and involved in vexatious litigation by the acts of the pretended legislature; and that the peace is now preserved and can only be preserved during the existing state of things at the expense of the United States, and by retaining a part of the army in the State. The bill provides for holding an election in Louisiana on the 4th Tuesday in May, 1874, for State officers and such members of the Legislature as ought to have been chosen Nov. 4, 1872. The President is required to appoint some person or designate some officer of the army not below the rank of Major General, to superintend said election. This superintendent is to appoint two citizens of Louisiana, of opposite political parties, to be State Registrars, the registration to be commenced within 20 days after the enactment of this bill, and to be completed 10 days previous to the date of the election. These Registrars are required to appoint two supervisors of registration of opposite political parties, in each precinct, except Jefferson and Orleans, for the former of which there are to be four supervisors and for the latter 12 in each ward.

In case the President appoints a civilian to be Superintendent of the election, the latter is to receive $5 000 for his services, and if an army officer shall be appointed Superintendent, and shall wilfully fail to perform the duties prescribed by this bill, he shall be fined not exceeding $1,000 or imprisonment at hard labor not exceeding one year. The bill also provides that it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to employ such a part of the land and naval forces of the United States as shall be necessary to aid in the execution of the Judicial process to carry out and enforce its provisions, and to maintain the public peace, and to sustain the officers appointed under this act in the discharge of their duties; and any act done by any person claiming to be an officer of the State of Louisiana, or any process issued by any State Court officer to enjoin or interfere with the execution of this act, is to be treated as absolutely void.

The investigation of the charges against Judge Busteed commenced on the 5th.

The Commission appointed to examine and report upon the routes and surveys by which it is proposed to construct a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific, met on the 5th. The Commission, accompanies by eminent engineers, will pass over the routes already surveyed, and report upon the feasibility of the work proposed. This additional survey will occupy about two months.

The Committee on Appropriations is still looking in every direction with a view to economize. On the 6th, all of the Auditors of the Treasury Department and Commissioner of Customs, were heard with reference to the present condition of the work in their respective Bureaus, the clerical force employed, and how it compares with the numbers employed prior to the war. Most of these officials took the ground, that to reduce the clerical force in their offices would tend to destroy the efficiency of the public service. Judge Martin, 6th Auditor of the Treasury, indicated that in view of the increase of business pertaining to this bureau, he would be constrained at an early day to recommend an increase of at least 20 additional clerks. Mr. Ela, 5th Auditor, on being interrogated, said that the committee could not reduce his force to the extent of one female copyist more without crippling the public service.

The House Committee on Indian Affairs agreed to report a bill, the main feature of which makes it a penal offense to cheat or defraud an Indian, or to fraudulently obtain his signature or mark to receipts for money which have not been fully explained to him. The bill generally has the effect of protecting the Indians from swindling agents, &c., who have heretofore grown rich at their expense.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in a communication to the House says the total reduction in duties by the act of June 6, 1872, reducing duties 10 per cent., amounts to $8,652,932.

The sub-committee recently appointed by the Committee on Pensions to consider the claims of the survivors of the Mexican war for pensions, has agreed to perfect a bill to meet these cases. The bill pending provides that the survivors of the Indian wars and the war with Mexico shall be placed on the same footing as the soldiers of 1812, or the widows and orphans of such soldiers.

The Board of Visitors of the Military Academy has been appointed by the President as follows: Gen. Chas. S. Hamilton, Wisconsin; Commodore C. R. P. Rodgers, U. S. N.; J. D Cameron, Pennsylvania; Rev. A. P. Kendig, Iowa; Francis Wayland, Yale College; A. P. Temple, Tennessee; Richard P. Hammond, California.

THE EAST.

One hundred employes of the New York & Chicago Midland Railroad have chained locomotives to the track, spiked the switches, and torn up the track at Summitville. They declare they will allow no more trains to pass till the Railroad Company pays them the wages already due.

At New York, February 23, the Directors of the St. Paul Railroad approved of the new consolidated mortgage of $35,000,000, of which $27,000,000 is to be used to take up outstanding bonds as they mature, and such a portion of the remainder as may be necessary to be applied for substituting steel for iron rails, building an iron bridge across the Mississippi river, and for other improvements of a permanent character. Resolutions were passed to pay a dividend of seven per cent. on the proposed stock on the second of March, provided the consent of a majority of the stockholders be obtained before that date.

Last week Her Majesty's ship Dido returned from her cruise, bringing as passenger a seaman, the sole survivor of the crew of the bark Plato. The ship left New York for China with coal months ago. She struck a reef north of New Caledonia, the crew escaping in one of her boats and making for Solomon's Islands. On reaching their destination they were mercilessly slaughtered by the natives. The mate shot himself rather than be tortured by the savages, and the survivor was spared from the superstitious belief that as half a dozen arrows by which he was pierced had not touched a vital part, it would be unlucky to attack him again. The Dido, hearing of a white man being in captivity there, rescued him and arrested three of the principal murderers, one of whom committed suicide by poison the following night.

The strike on the New York, Oswego & Midland Railroad for several months' back-pay continues. The locomotives, with tender and mails, only are allowed to proceed. The strikers burned the water tank at Budd's Station, west of Summitville, and at Ellenville, on the branch Road, they threaten to burn the bridges. A car loaded with flour was broken open at Summitville and the contents distributed to those who needed it. The telegraph office has been taken possession of, and no telegrams are allowed to pass. The Sheriff with his posse were powerless to act against the strikers, who number 150 men at Summitville, besides quite a force at Ellenville.

The fire in the Empire coal mine at Wilkesbarre, broke out Tuesday in the main way, where the men were working, and where it was thought to have been subdued, and drove the men out. Eighteen of them were brought to the surface insensible from the effects of the gas and sulphur, but recovered after being attended by a physician. The fire is worse than at any time during the six weeks it has been burning.

At New York, Feb. 4, the suit arising out of the operations of the combination known as the Rock Island Pool came before Judge Van Brunt in special term of the Supreme Court, on demurrer to complaint. The plaintiffs are Wm. M. Earle and Lindall W. Salterstall, and the defendants George S. Scott, Wm. E. Strong, Geo. Wood, Frank Work, Frank K Sturgis, Cornelius K. Garrison, John F. Tracy and Wm. S. Woodward, are alleged by plaintiffs to compose a pool. The plaintiffs seek to make defendants responsible for an alleged loss of $300,000 which they suffered, as they allege, by acting as brokers for defendants.

Edward K. Winship, the alleged defaulting bankrupt, who left New York about the 15th of last November, owing, it was said, about $400,000, has returned. His creditors will allow him to settle up his affairs and liquidate his liabilities as far as he is able.

Ex-Sheriff Brennan and his Deputy, William W. Shields, left the Ludlow street jail, New York, on Saturday, their term of sentence having expired for contempt of court, for allowing Henry W. Genet, pending sentence to the State Prison, to escape.

Benoni Howard, the millionaire match-maker, of New York, convicted of counterfeiting revenue stamps, has been sentenced to the Penitentiary for five years.

General regret is expressed that the famous horse, Tom Bowling, will not run at the ensuing spring meeting of the Jerome Park Association, Mr. McGrath refusing to allow of any extra weight being placed upon his horse as a penalty for his victories. Mr. McGrath is represented as willing to run Tom Bowling on his merits against any horse in the country, but will not consent to have the animal punished for his successes.

Edwin Booth, the well-known actor, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. Among the liabilities is a claim of the Oakes Ames estate for $100,000.

The principal through lines to the East have adopted a uniform scale of classification for freights. The classification has reference to bulk and the cost of goods. High priced goods and bulky light goods will be charged high rates, and low-priced heavy goods, low figure. The following are the rates of the various classes of goods as one of the principal Western cities: Chicago, first, $1; second, 90c; third, 75c; fourth, 60c; special, 45c. St. Louis, first-class, $1.28; second, $1.16, third, 97c; fourth, 79c; special, 61c. Cincinnati, first, 92c; second, 80c; third, 70c; fourth, 55c; special, 41c.

THE WEST.

A special to the Louisville Courier-Journal, dated Connecautville, O., gives an account of a most daring and extensive robbery at that place Monday, Feb. 2d, While the cashier of the First National Bank, D. D. Williams, was writing at his desk, he heard a rap at a side door, and upon opening the door two masked men sprang upon him, bound and gagged him, and succeeded in making their escape with $14 000 in currency and $30,000 in United States bonds. Mr. Williams was subsequently found in an unconscious state, but recovered his consciousness in a couple of hours after being released.

The passengers on the Cairo & Fulton Railroad who were robbed Saturday evening at Gad's Hill, in Missouri, and who arrived at St. Louis Sunday morning, gave a very ludicrous account of the affair. From the description given of them, they are the same who robbed the Hot Spring stage two weeks ago, and nail from Missouri. The leader is named Greenwood, the others named McCoy and Younger, there being two brothers of the latter name, and one or two others.

"A. H. Mills, Sheriff, and Mr. Patton, Clerk of Lincoln county, arrived at Denver, Col., Feb. 2d, to see the Governor in regard to the troubles in that county. They report that the civil authorities are powerless to maintain order, or bring offenders to justice, and that five more persons have been killed, a man and wife being shot while in bed."

A correspondent from Fort Defiance reports that the Navajoes and Mormons who live near the Northwestern boundary are at war. The Mormons have killed three or four Navajoes, and the Indians are retaliating. Great fear is entertained of trouble next spring and summer in this vicinity, as the Utes have made overtures to the Navajoes to join them in war upon the miners and settlers near the Dolores and San-juan mines. The Navajoe chief, Manelito, favors the hostility, but most of the Navajoes have so far declined to take any positive part.

At San Francisco, Feb. 6th, the testimony taken before the legislative committee in investigation into the charges of corruption in the late Senatorial election, tended to support the assertion that no money or promises of reward were given by Booth or his friends to secure or influence his election. The investigation is very searching, and thus far, Boruck who is the complainant, has failed to establish the charges made.—The investigation will be resumed next Monday.

A St. Louis letter from the Republican's Jefferson City correspondent says Governor Woodson has offered a reward of $2,000 each, for the outlaws who robbed the Iron Mountain Railroad train at Gad's Hill, a few days ago, but no official announcement of the fact has been made.

THE SOUTH.

At Savannah, Feb. 4th, the spring meeting of the Savannah Jockey Club commenced with an unusually large attendance. The first race, hurdle race, two miles, over eight hurdles, was won by Revenge, beating Limestone only by a throat-latch, with Lawlor a length behind. The second race, Tenbroeck stakes, one mile, for three-year-olds, was won by Flower Girl; time, 1:48¾. The third race, two-mile heats, was won by Bessie Lee in two straight heats, Jim Hinton second, and Fireball distanced; time, 3:56½, 3:53¾.

Suits were instituted in the Supreme Court of Wake county, North Carolina, by Augut Belmont & Co., to compel the State Auditors to collect the special tax bonds for the payment of interest for the years 1870 to 1874. February 20th was set by Judge Watts for a hearing at Chambers, of a motion for a peremptory mandamus. Should the State Courts decide adverse to the plaintiffs, it is the intention to carry the case to the Supreme Court of the United States.

John C. Henry, chief clerk in the United States Revenue office at Lynchburg, Va., has absconded with a large amount of money, said to be $100,000.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

The members of Parliament were nominated by eighteen county and three borough constituencies in England and Wales, and 16 Conservatives and 18 Liberals were returned on Monday. Three Liberals and two Conservatives were returned in Scotland, and six Conservatives, two Home Rulers, and two Liberals in Ireland. No party made any gains Monday, except the Home Rulers in Kilkenny and Kerry counties. Thos. E Taylor and I. Y. Hamilton were returned by Dublin county, and John T. Ball and David R. Plunkett by the Dublin University. All are Conservatives, and represented the same constituencies in the last Parliament.

Gladstone addressed an assemblage of 5,000 people at New Cross. He refuted the statement of Baron Rothschild that the proposed remission of taxes would cause a loss to the revenue of £9,000,000, which would have to be made good by new taxation. He declared the Government placed its reliance on an equitable adjustment of existing laws, and the practice of a rigid economy. He called attention to the fact that the Opposition leaders would not promise a total abolition of the income tax, or any measure of relief for the general consumer.

A dispatch from the Boroughs, at 3.30 p. m., Feb. 3d, says: There has been a number of fights and window smashing. At the Liberal and Conservative meetings in the Metropolitan District last night, addresses were made by the respective candidates. There was much excitement at each gathering. Samuel Morley and Kirkman Daniel Hodgson, have been returned for Bristol; they were both members of the late Parliament. Of the members of the new Parliament thus far chosen, the Conservatives have a majority of sixteen.

Gladstone has been re elected in Greenwich. Mr. Boord, conservative, is elected in place of Sir David Salomons, late Liberal member. The vote for the two successful candidates is announced as follows: Gladstone, 5,968; Boord, 6,193. Gladstone's vote in 1868 was 6,386.

The total number of Members of Parliament elected or retured without opposition on the 3d, was 41, of whom 27 were Conservatives and 14 Liberals. The Conservatives gained seats in Knaresborough, Malden, Petersfield, Scarborough and Winchester. The Liberals gained two seats in Shrewsbury, and John Corbitt, a Liberal, has defeated Sir John Packington in Ipswitch. At the last election, Sir John had a majority of 187 over Corbett. The Home Rule candidate has been elected in Kinsale. Mr. Childers has been re-elected in Pontefract. The City of Lincoln, represented in the last Parliament by the Liberals, returns Colonel Chapin, Conservative, and Charles Seely, one of the former members. The contest in London was close and exciting, and attended by great disorder. A large mob at one time held possession of the streets. Attacks were made on the polling places, windows were smashed, and an attempt made to set fire to a hotel. The military were finally called in, and charged upon and dispersed the rioters. Further disturbances were feared, but at last accounts had not been renewed, the declaration of the result of the election having a tranquilizing effect on all parties.

A Conservative has been returned from Castlemain. This is another gain for the opposition. The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State and War, and Vernon Harcourt, Solicitor-General, have been re-elected in the city of Oxford.

At London, February 4th, additional election returns showed that the Liberals have gained one seat in Bath, Dunham, Poole and Worcester, and two in Boston. The Conservatives have gained one seat in Buery, Stedmunds, Colchester, Grantham, Horsham, Plymouth, Portsmouth and Windsor, and two in Cambridge, Exeter and Wigan. John Laird, Liberal Conservative, has been re-elected from Birkenhead by a majority of 2,000.

Grant Duff, under Secretary of State for India, has been chosen to represent Edinburg. James Starsfield, Radical, has been returned from Halifax, and William Henry Gladstone, Liberal Conservative, and the son of Premier from Whitby; both were members of the late Parliament. Up to this morning 108 Liberals and 141 Conservatives have been returned.

The balance of the 208 places remains unchanged. The Conservatives gain 30 seats, previously held by the Liberals, and the Liberals have ousted 9 Conservatives. The Conservative Journals are jubilant over the result.

A special from Berlin says alarming reports are current concerning the relations between Germany and France.

Prof. Anderson, the well-known conjuror, is dead.

London election returns on the 5th, showed a Conservative gain of one member in Berwick, Lewes and North Allerton and tree seats for Nottingham. Two seats for Penryn have been gained by the Literals who have again triumphed in Cockermouth, Dewsbury, Glasgow, Merthyr Tydvil, Rochdale and Bradford. In the last mentioned place William Edward Foster has a majority of 1,700. Duncan, McLaren and Mr. Cowan, (Liberals) have been chosen in Edinburg.

At London, 23 graduates of Yale College have formed an alumni association and passed resolutions hailing with satisfaction the appointment of the Alumni's Chief Justice. A banquet is proposed in honor of Chief Justice Waite on his arrival in Washington.

In the Parliamentary elections held Thursday, February 5th, the Conservatives gained one seat each in Belfast, Dover, Gravesend and Northampton. The Liberals gained a seat in Dumfriesshire, and one for Coventry. Home Rulers were elected from Drogheda and Wexford. In the last parliament, these two places were represented by Liberals.

The Marquis of Lorne has returned from Argyleshire.

The first report that all the Liberal candidates were elected in Glasgow was incorrect. Later returns show that the Conservatives gained one seat.

Baron Mayer de Rothschild died in London, Feb. 6th.

Conservatives were elected in Westminster, Feb. 5th, by large majorities. The Representatives in the last Parliament were a Liberal Conservative and a Liberal.

It is reported that Gladstone has sent his resignation to the Queen.

The Daily Telegraph says the opinion of the country has been pronounced, and it is strongly adverse to Mr. Gladstone. He will comply with the decision, as he is bound to, and will follow the constitutional precedents set by Peel, Melbourne, and others under similar circumstances. They met Parliament with the Royal speech, and either resigned thereupon or submitted to a formal defeat. Not only is the field lost, but it is lost most decisively. The result is to be attributed to Bruce's unpopular Licensing act; the division of the Liberal party on side issues, such as the Educational act, female suffrage, the Permissive bill; and the deep and not unnatural displeasures of the violent language against society used by the supporters of the workingmen's candidates; and lastly, the want of tact and sympathy shown by several members of the Administration.

According to the latest dispatches, 484 Members of Parliament have been returned, of whom 295 are Conservative and 1 229 Liberals. The Conservatives replace 71 Liberals, and the latter have ousted 27 Conservatives.

The Post thinks it is certain that Gladstone will resign the Premiership before the new Parliament assembles.

The opposition unanimously recognize the completeness of the defeat of the government in the elections.

A large meeting was held in St. James Feb. 5th, to express sympathy for the Catholics of Germany. The Duke of Nortolk presided.

The London Times of the 9th, advises the government to resign between the close of the elections and the assembling of Parliament. Gladstone is said to be at variance with his ministry on the question of the resignation of the Government. The Premier is represented as wishing the ministry to resign immediately, while they desire to wait until new Parliament assembles. Disraeli is stated to have already arranged his ministry.

The members of Parliament thus far chosen number 509—267 Conservatives, and 242 Liberals and Home Rulers. One Home Ruler has been returned from Cork City, and two from Kilkenny county.

It is probable that Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for War, will be raised to a peerage.

The organization of a new company to lay light cable from Great Britain to Halifax, via Azores, is announced. Capital £380,000. The Prospectus says it is the intention of the company to convey messages at the rate of one shilling per word.

France.

A profound sensation has been caused at Versailles by articles which appeared in the North German Gazette, urging restrictions on the freedom of the Church and the Ultramontane press in France and Belgium.

A Sydney, New South Wales, letter says: "Reports from the new homes of the French Communists indicate continued disquietude. The wives of about 100 arrived at Noumea, from Brest, and were, in most cases, permitted to rejoin their husbands, thus depriving them of one ground of complaint. A few who had anticipated the privilege have been delegated to the society of felons at the Precipice, where discipline has become more rigid, and irons and other modes of punishment more elaborate and frequent. The officials evince their distrust of those at Isle Depines by keeping a gunboat almost constantly stationed there."

A letter from Paris says: The general belief in educated circles is that while Prince Bismarck would avoid war by preference, he would not miss the pretext which would give him the appearance of being right, and enable him to crush once for all the Ultramontane party.

Spain.

Spain has provisionally recalled her diplomatic representatives from Berlin, Vienna, and several other European capitals.

The Spanish Minister has informed the Secretary of State that he has received a telegram announcing the blockade by his Government of the coast of Contabria, from Cape Penas to Fuenterrabia, except the ports of Gijon, Santander and San Sebastian.

Turkey.

A fire at Constantinople, Monday night, destroyed over 100 houses, including the residence of the Grand Vizier.

Austria.

Thirty thousand unemployed workmen of Vienna have petitioned the government for relief.

Germany.

In Alsace French candidates for the Reichstag have been elected by overwhelming majorities.

Earl Russell in a letter to Sir John Murray, on the relations existing between Rome and Germany says: "The very same principles which bound me to ask for equal freedom for the Roman Catholic, Protestant dissenter and Jew, bind me to protest against the conspiracy which aims at confining the German Empire in chains. Never. It is hoped to be shaken off. I hasten to declare with all friends of freedom, and I trust, with many of the English nation, that I could no longer call myself a lover of civil and religious liberty were I not to proclaim my sympathy with the Emperor of Germany, in the noble struggle in which he is engaged. We have nothing to do with the details of the German laws; they may be just, they may be harsh; we can only leave it to the German people to decide for themselves, as we have decided for ourselves. At all events, we are able to see that the cause of the German Emperor is the cause of liberty, and the cause of the Pope is the cause of slavery."

The recent elections to the Prussian Parliament have demonstrated the extreme improbability of Prince Bismarck's success by purely legal or parliamentry means. The Catholics have gained thirty-five seats in Landtag over and above what they had, and the Liberals have gained considerably.

The French bishops announce their intention to resist and any attempt to muzzle them, and Pius IX. has counselled them to fight the good fight of faith even unto martyrdom. As a consequence of all of this the Bourse has been falling frightfully during the past three days, spreading consternation in financial circles.

At Berlin, Feb. 3d, a dispatch from Posen stated that Archbishop Ledochowski was arrested by order of the German Government and sent to Frankfort on the order, where he will be imprisoned.

Cuba.

A private letter from Havana says the affairs at Trinidad are regarded as exceptional and not at all indicative of a general uprising of the negroes and the burning of their plantations. An opinion prevails that the insurgents will soon be able to cross the old Trocha in comparative force; heretofore they have been able occasionally to cross in small parties. The burning of the plantations is inevitably a secret organization and is thought to exist with ramifications extending to all parts of the island, the object of which being to give moral and material support to the insurgents, who, if successful in this operation in the Central and Eastern Departments, will endeavor to pass into the villas district. It is conceded that the Spaniards are just now in a tight place, and need men and money to carry on the war. The want of both is apparent, and is telling severely against the Spaniards.

Two pages of Saturday's official Gazette are devoted to proclamations of Captain-General Jovellar, lately reinvested with extraordinary power.

The first gives a full exposition of the present state of the insurrection, the causes of its continuance, also, assurances that peacable citizens may live securely under the protection of the laws.

The second declares the entire island in a state of siege. All rebels and persons accused of sedition, murder, and similar crimes, are to be tried by court martial. Persons charged with other crimes and misdemeanors are to be tried before ordinary courts, the Captain-General reserving the right to turn them over to a court martial, if the gravity of their crimes require it.

The third orders the mobilization for active service of one volunteer out of every 10; this mobilization to begin immediately, and continue six months. All persons between the ages of 20 and 45 years not volunteers on the 1st of February are to be enrolled in the militia. Voluntary enlistment is to be for one year, and any volunteer who may enlist for one year, shall be exempt from all future drafts. Every drafted volunteer will receive $100 bounty. Drafted volunteers will be allowed to furnish substitutes, but payment of money to be relieved from duty will not be allowed. No one subject to draft will be permitted to leave the island, unless he gives bonds that he will furnish a substitute in case he is drafted. All persons over 45 years will have to furnish for mobilization one man out of every 10 of their number If they cannot enlist sufficient to cover this demand, they must pay $1,000 in gold for each man wanting to complete the quota. Quartermasters will furnish the necessary accoutrements to drafted persons, who will receive the same treatment and be subject to the same laws and regulations as regular soldiers. Those drafted will be organized into bodies of 300, forming two additional companies, making each a battalion. Two-thirds of those drafted men will remain in garrison, and the other third will take the field, accompanied by regulars. Every six months the third in the field will be relieved by one of the other two-thirds performing garrison duty. The artillery and engineer corps can be reinforced in the same manner as infantry.

The fourth proclamation orders that the militia shall be divided into four classes, according to age, and that every male person of age, shall be included in the militia, all to be liable to military duty, under certain restrictions and conditions.

The fifth provides that free colored people enrolling in the militia shall be subject to the same conditions as whites, and be mobilized in the same manner.

The sixth orders that the owners of slaves shall give one out of every one hundred in the island to work in camps and on fortifications and trochas. At the end of the campaign the government will liberate all these slaves, paying their owners $1,000 for each.

The seventh augments every battallion in the army by two companies.

The eighth creates a Junta for the inspection of all items of the expenses of the war.

The ninth organizes vigilance committees in the interior, who will take note of everything going on, and furnish guides and act as home guards. This system of vigilance is to be paid for, and is intended to prevent communication between rebel sympathizers in the towns and the armed insurgents, thus isolating the latter.

The tenth orders that all officers and soldiers shall be paid in future in gold or its equivalent in paper.

The eleventh increases the extra allowances and food of soldiers in the field.

The twelfth relates to towns and settlements in the interior, ordering that only such new settlements be preserved as may be necessary in a military and political sense, and whose disappearance cannot produce any alarm, or cause desertions to the enemy. The inhabitants of destroyed towns will be removed to the nearest preserved town, and receive land for tillage known to be in a productive condition. Able-bodied men will be enlisted as local guerillas, their families to receive Government rations. Towns may be taken from their present site to another, and new towns built, according to prescribed plans.

These orders are published simultaneously throughout the island, and Spaniards suppose they will be sufficient to crush the rebellion within six months.

India.

The famine is increasing. It is estimated that 150 000 natives are already sorely distressed.

The National Grange.

On Thursday evening last, the session of the National Grange was entirely taken up with the discussion of parliamentary rules for the government of subordinate granges. It has been decided by the State agents of the order now here to leave the question of co-operation entirely to the National Grange, with the view to having constitutional provision made for it. This will defer the settlement of the matter until next year, as amendments to the constitution must be ratified by two-thirds of the State Granges before they take effect.

The National Grange held two sessions in St. Louis on the 6th. The following is the official abstract of proceedings:

A telegram was received from Secretary Coffey, of the State Grange of Missouri, stating that there are 1,600 subordinate Granges in that State.

The Committee on the Good of the Order made a partial report, one of the parts of which is that the constitution and by-laws of the National Grange be printed in all languages, as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

A call of States was then made, to give each an opportunity to present what business he desired to have acted upon.

Master Smith, of Georgia, presented some amendments to the Constitution. Referred to Committee on Constitution and Bye-Laws.

Master Smedley, of Iowa, presented suggestions regarding the business of the organization, and made a statement regarding a contract for the Werner Harvester, for Iowa, and all other States, and also the arrangement entered into by the Executive Committee of Iowa for a seeder, which will also sow cotton seed. Referred to the Executive Committee.

Master Davis, of Kentucky, also presented constitutional amendments.

Master Moore, of Maryland, offered a resolution, for the special order to confer the sixth degree, and Saturday night was set for that ceremony.

Master Brown, of Michigan, presented constitutional amendments. Referred.

An invitation was read, asking the Grange to visit the Merchants' Exchange in a body, which was accepted, and the time will be fixed hereafter.

Master Aiken, of South Carolina, presented a petition from the Granges of Canada, asking for a dispensation to receive the 6th and 7th degrees, and establish a Dominion Grange.

Brother Taylor stated that Charleston, S. C., had been unanimously selected by the Cotton States as the most desirable place to hold the next annual meeting of the National Grange, and on motion, Charleston was chosen unanimously as the next place of meeting, amid great applause. Brother Taylor, in the name of South Carolina and all the States of the South, returned thanks for the unanimous vote, and assured the members that no efforts would be spared by the citizens of Charleston to make their visit to that city pleasant, and the session of the Grange agreeable.

On motion, Brother Thompson, a representative of Canada, was invited to report the condition and wants of the order in the Dominion. Mr. Thompson said they had 10 live Granges, some numbering over 1000 members; that they wanted to establish a Dominion Grange, so as to have under their control a fixed headquarters; and their most earnest desire was to see the organization become international in character.

A Committee was appointed to whom all resolutions are to be referred, and the Committee instructed to report on the last day of the session. The following compose the Committee: Messrs. Wardlow, Florida; Hamilton, California; Jones, Arkansas; Maxwell, Tennessee; Hinckley, New York.

Several Standing Committees were appointed, who will consider the various matters presented for the welfare of the order, and report hereafter.

The session will probably continue a week longer.

The National Grange held but one business session on Saturday. The call of States was continued.

Master Hudson, Kansas, presented a memorial regarding the establishment of a Territorial Government over the Indian Territory.

General Vaughan, of Mississippi, presented a claim from Master Lewis, of Louisiana; also, one from the National Deputy of the same State. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Master Chase, of New Hampshire, offered a resolution to have printed 500 copies of a complete list of the members of the National Grange present, with their wives and their postoffice address also, a list of the committees appointed. Carried.

Master Porter, of Nebraska, moved that a Committee on Statistical Crop Reports be appointed, and the Committee on Constitution and By laws was appointed such Committee.

Several other resolutions were referred to the Committee on Resolutions and Constitution and By laws.

The evening session was devoted to the conferring the sixth degree on Masters of State Granges and their wives, they being the only persons entitled to receive it.

A good deal of interest centers in the report of the Committee on Transportation, of which Col. Smedley, of Iowa, is Chairman, which is expected to embody the main points of an address recently delivered by that gentleman before the State Grange in Iowa. This address has already been published.

The Iron and Steel Interest

At the Convention of iron and steel men in Philadelphia, the following resolutions were offered:

Resolved, That whereas, the cost of iron in Railroads and rolling stock is about one-third of the total cost of such roads; and whereas, the demand for iron for Railroad building is by far the largest upon which iron masters depend for their business; and whereas the mutual interdependence of Railroads and iron makers, both as to the construction on one hand and employment on the other, in such that there can be no cessation of one without a cessation of the other.

Resolved, That a committee of this Association be appointed to consider whether the iron makers of the country as a whole can do anything to develope new Railroads and cheapen the cost of construction.

The resolution was referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Bennett moved the following:

Resolved, That the general policy of employing a portion of the national revenue in the improvement of the national channel of trade and transportation, and of extending Government aid to trans-continental lines of Railroad, the construction of which involves a greater risk and expense than private enterprise is willing to encounter, has been beneficial to the whole country, and we advise that such further aid be extended to unfinished national lines of roads as will render productive the investments already made in them by the Government, and tend to improve the Western and Southern States through which they extend, to receive business, and give employment to labor now idle, with other resulting benefits to the people at large.

Resolved, That the satisfactory progress of ship building in the United States, and the especial activity in the construction of the iron vessels for ocean commerce, is satisfactory evidence of the beneficial operation of the existing laws, which should not be changed so as to allow free trade in ships, to the serious detriment of this growing industry, without conferring upon the carrying trade any real or permanent advantages."

The question was put upon the second resolution, as offered by Mr. Bennet concerning ship building, which resulted in its adoption. The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

"If," advertised a philosophical victim, "the person who took a fancy to my overcoat was influenced by the weather, then all is serene; but if he did so from commercial considerations, I am ready to enter into financial negotiations for its return."

The Markets.

Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Cotton quiet at 15c for middling uplands. Flour quiet and without decided change; receipts 120 000 bbls; sales 80,000 bbls at $5 40@7 60 for extra state and $5 40@8 00 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat is reported a shade firmer; receipts, 69,000 bu; sales 43,000 bu; 155@157c for No 2 Chicago; 158@159c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye quiet. Corn dull; receipts 57,000 bu; sales 31,000 bu at 82@83c for new western mixed afloat. Barley is scarce and prices very firm. Oats dull; receipts 18,000 bu; sales 21,000 bu; 61@62c for mixed western; 64@64c for white do. Pork market is quiet at $16 12½ for new mess. Cut Meats firm. Beef quiet. Lard is heavy at 9 7-16c for steam and 10c for kettle. Whiskey 100c. Sugar steady. Petroleum—7½@7¾c for crude and 15c for refined.

TOLEDO, TUESDAY MORNING, Feb. 10.—Flour—The market is without quotable change, with $4 00 for Fine, $4 50 for Superfine, $5 00@5 50 for Extra, $7 00@8 00 for Double Extra and Fancy, $6 75@7 00 for Buckwheat, and $5 00 for Rye Flour. Wheat—The market during the week has ruled very quiet, but at this time exhibits a little more strength, with Amber at 149½c spot and 155½@157c seller April; Extra White Michigan is held at 167½c, 1c above the views of buyers, and it did not sell; No. 1 White Michigan, 158c; No. 2 White Michigan sold at 142c; No. 2 White Wabash changed hands at 152c and No. 3 at 149c; No. 1 Red Wabash dull at 135c; No 2 Red, 148½c for Wabash; No. 3 Red was in request at 132c, without takers; in Rejected Red parties were apart, with 129c bid and 125c asked. Corn—The market is dull, with High-mixed 65@65½c spot, 65½c seller February, 67½c seller April, 69c seller May, and 70c seller June; new corn sold 61c spot and 63c seller March; Low-mixed Corn 64@64½c for regular and 60½c for new; No Grade, 60c for new; Damaged Corn, 57c; White Corn was held at 65c, with 65c bid; new was held at 61c; Yellow Corn was for sale at 65c for regular and 62c for new, with buyers of the latter grade at 61½c. Oats—The market exhibits a little more activity at a slight improvement in prices, with sales of No. 1 at 49½c, Michigan at 48c, and No. 2 at 47½c. Dressed Hogs are in better request at higher prices, with sales at $7 05@7 10. Seeds—Lower at $5 10 for medium Clover, $5 40 for Mammoth, $3 25 for Timothy, and 170@171c for Flax. Pork higher at $16 for heavy, $15 50 for light mess; hams, smoked 12@13c per lb. Lard, 9c for prime in kegs and bbls. Butter, 20@35c for fresh roll. Potatoes, 105c for Peach Blows and 100c for common and mixed. Fruits, 11c for Apples dried, 3c for Peaches peeled, and $2 50@3 00 for Green Apples per bbl. Mill Feed sold at $19 for Bran, $19 50 for Shorts, $24 for Middlings, and $24 00 for Corn Meal per ton. Beans, 170c for small navy, and 175c for large white per bushel. Poultry, 8@9c for chickens. Lumber—Walnut, merchantable, 1st and 2ds, dry, $65; Culls, $25@28; Green, $50@55; Culls, $20@25; Oak ship timber $300; Whitewood, $25@28; Ash lumber, $22@25; Butternut, 1st and 2d, $10@45; Walnut flooring, $50; Walnut timber, 40. Pine Lumber—The market exhibits a firmer feeling, with Clear at $50; Second Clear $45; Common boards, $15; Stock Boards, $16; Fencing, $12; Joists and Scantling, $15@20. Shingles in moderate demand: A 1, 18 sawed, $5; No 1 do, $3.75; No 2, $2.50@2.75; A 1 18 shaved, $3.25. Lath, $2.75. Cedar Posts, 20c.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 9—1: